



THE AMERICAN

JOURNAL OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, THE ARTS, AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

VOL. XIX.—No. 502.

PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1890.

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A NATIONAL JOURNAL.
PUBLISHED WEEKLY, ON EACH SATURDAY.

THE AMERICAN COMPANY, LIMITED, PROPRIETORS
WHARTON BARKER, President.
HOWARD M. JENKINS, Sec. and Treas.

ROBERT ELLIS THOMPSON, Chief Editorial Contributor.

Business and Editorial Offices:
No. 921 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

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AMUSEMENTS.

WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY, MARCH 24.

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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1890.

PRICE, 6 CENTS

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

IT is quite certain that this will be a fine year for demagogues, especially in the Western States. Mr. Voorhees, whose term expires a year hence, and whose return to the Senate depends upon the elections in Indiana this year, has spread his sails to catch a fresh breeze, and has given forth a prolonged wail over the sufferings of the farmers. The reason for this is plain: there is an extensive discontent in the newer States over the failure to realize good prices for the great crops of last year, and the organizations of the "Farmers' Alliance" and other like bodies have sprung into an influence and importance that they had not before possessed. The pawn-broking measure of Mr. Vance of North Carolina, to which we alluded last week, is one sign of the concern which the clamor is causing, and there will certainly be many more. The general disposition of those who cannot sell their grain crops at prices high enough for their business necessities is to demand that they shall be helped in some way: that money shall be lent them at a low rate or no rate of interest; that plenty of silver shall be coined, to cause a general rise in prices; that the tariff shall be lowered,—so foreign goods may enter more readily; and so on. One Senator says that of a batch of thirty-two letters received in one day, on these subjects, none made an intelligible or judicious suggestion: all looked to some sort of governmental interposition to lift them out of their rut. As we have remarked, the demagogues will enjoy this situation hugely: other candidates for Congress not nearly so much.

If there was any grave danger that Congress meant to serve its enemies by reckless extravagance in appropriations, it has been, no doubt, measurably if not entirely removed by the sweeping statements of Mr. Carlisle, and the too manifest joy of the Mugwump press. Their argument is that by the overthrow of filibustering the effectual check on extravagance has been removed. A review of the situation indicates that this is not the case. There are but four new appropriations likely to pass: a Dependent Pension bill, the refunding of the Direct Tax, the Blair bill (at this writing in doubt, in the Senate), and perhaps the bill to pay the French Spoliation claims. In the appropriations for the Army and Navy, the fortifications, and rivers and harbors, there should be no considerable increase over last year, as more money could not be used to advantage. As to pensions generally, some of those vetoed by Mr. Cleveland certainly will be passed, and other special cases will be treated more indulgently than the general law allows and perhaps than the facts warrant. But bills of this class will make no enormous addition to the expenses of the Nation; and there is no reason to suppose that a Service pension bill will be passed by this or any Congress of our time.

Of the four measures we have mentioned, not one is a partisan proposal, for although Mr. Cleveland vetoed the Dependent Pensions bill when first passed, he pledged himself in the last year of his administration to sign any measure of that kind which the soldiers would approve, and if he had been reelected he would have been held to this promise. The bad leaks Congress needs to watch are in the matter of new public buildings, rivers and harbors, and private pension bills. Of the first class, several objectionable measures have been passed already; of the last a whole shoal have been offered, and a few passed. Undoubtedly, caution is needed, but the risk is greatest in the direction of defeating appropriations of public merit, and wasting money on worthless jobs. This is the explanation of some of the opposition to the Blair bill.

THE Congress of the Americas has reached the subject of subsidies for steamship lines between the Atlantic ports of the Conti-

ment. The report looks toward the establishment of a bi-monthly service with Rio and the two great ports south of it, by fast steamships to be constructed in this country, with a subsidiary line sailing as often but consisting of slower vessels and carrying only freight. All the countries thus reached are to contribute to the joint-subsidy, but our own contribution is to be the largest. Each country is to have the right to a share in the registration of the subsidized ships proportional to its share in the subsidy, with of course the right to use them in case of war. The vessels may stop at one intermediate port between Rio and the United States, but not more.

As nothing is said of the establishment of lines to connect the ports on the Pacific Coast, we presume the Congress thought that the present situation hardly warrants an undertaking of that kind. Colombia is reached by the arrangement for the ports on the Carribean Sea; Ecuador, Bolivia, and Peru are not in a financial condition which would suggest their making outlays of this kind, and the diplomatic temper of Chili does not make it likely that she would share any large part of the burden. But the successful establishment of lines on the Atlantic will lead to the connection of the Western coasts of the Continent in an equally efficient way.

That the establishment of such lines will cause a great extension of our commerce with South America hardly admits of doubt, if proper care be taken to study the commercial needs of those countries and also their ways of doing business. Ignorance on the latter point has been almost as much in our way as the want of shipping. The brusque style of our own commercial emporiums has been the cause of grave offense when transferred to Rio or Buenos Ayres, where the merchants have much of the style and all the sensitiveness of the grandee. English traders have learned this, and the fulsome manner of the English shopkeeper has been applied in some degree to wholesale business. This is the more appreciated as coming from the business men of a country which is represented as the greatest of the world. It is our size and wealth which make any seeming want of respect the more offensive, as indicating a pretension to overbear the rest of mankind.

THOSE of the South American countries which most incline to Free Trade, and notably the Argentine Confederation, have been inclined to criticise our own policy as an obstacle to the extension of commerce, and to ask especially the removal of the duties on their wools. One of our delegates made a conclusive answer to this by showing that of the \$120,560,325 worth of produce we bought of our neighbors in the free States to the South, only \$14,738,187 worth paid any duty, being a trifle less than one-eighth of the whole. He also showed that the recent changes in our Tariff had tended in this direction, since of the \$45,000,000 worth we bought in 1870, fully \$40,000,000 worth was then dutiable. On the other hand our neighbors buy of us only \$50,623,941 worth of goods, and of this only \$5,000,000 worth or less did they admit free of duty. Like most wool-growing countries, the Argentine Confederation is exercised over the proposal to increase the duty on wool, and is inclined to find our Tariff policy more exclusive than it really is.

If our Tariff is not in the way of larger purchases of South American produce of the kinds we now take, neither is it in the way of larger sales than we now effect. Our chief object must be to extend the sales of our honest cotton goods and our intelligently made hardwares, and in both these articles the superior quality of our manufactures already enables to sell considerable amounts, in spite of the cheapness of loaded English cottons and

old-fashioned tools and cutlery. We do not need to open the markets to a single article not already on our export list, in order to double and even treble our sales to our Southward neighbors. All we need is shipping, good manners, and enterprise, and our national resources are capable of meeting all these demands on them.

On Saturday last Mr. Lodge introduced his bill to regulate the election of Congressmen in certain specified cases. The bill is reported from the Committee on Elections, of which he is chairman, and has been prepared with great care. The enemies of all such legislation have been forced to admit that if there is to be any, it would be impossible to devise a more moderate proposal than this, and that it is in entire harmony with the constitutional powers of Congress. It does not propose to assume the control of all elections without discrimination. Before there is any interference with the control exercised by the State, there must be a demand for national action from at least 500 citizens of the district in question. This demand must be addressed to the United States Court, which may then appoint registrars from each of the two leading parties in that district, who are to make a complete registration of all the voters, and to give ample time for its correction by the removal and addition of names. On the basis of this registration the election is to be held in accordance with the Australian method, only official ballots being used, and the election officers being required to mark the ballots for those who cannot read.

Should the measure pass Congress, as it very likely may, it will be applied in other districts than those of the Southern States. In Indiana, for instance, there is no registration of voters, and the Republicans claim that this defect interferes seriously with the freedom and honesty of the elections. In a few Northern districts it is alleged that the employers of labor have exercised undue influence over their workingmen in the selection of Congressmen, and in these we may expect to see the labor organizations equally active in demanding national control of the elections, where the State law does not provide a secret ballot. And indeed the friends of the Australian method of voting are very likely to make a similar demand in every case where they are strong enough to secure the 500 signatures to the appeal to the Court, and where the old method of voting is still employed.

It seems to us that there are two defects in the bill. The first is that it does not give the Court discretionary power in determining the bounds of the "election precincts," as the leaving of this power to the State authorities may furnish new means of defeating the purpose of the measure. The second is its enacting the Australian method. The experience of Massachusetts shows that this method furnishes an amount of friction in the way of the illiterate voter which does prevent his casting his vote to a very large extent. It is admitted on both sides that this was the effect in Boston, and the Democrats of New York are fighting the Saxton bill for this very reason. If this be true of the white voter of the North, with his larger experience in politics and his superior social courage, how much more likely is it to be true of the Southern freedman! And with all its boast of secrecy the Australian ballot system gives the smallest degree of security to the class of voters who most need it. It is the freedman who will have to have his ballot marked by election-officers of whom he knows nothing, or knows that one of them belongs to the class whose social and political antagonism he fears to provoke. It would have been better to establish the ordinary ballot in the elections thus placed under national control, and this not only for the safety of the voters, but to prevent the use of the new law for any purpose but that for which it is intended.

AMONG the notable speeches of the week, in favor of the Blair bill, was that of Mr. Daniel of Virginia, on Tuesday. Mr. George of Mississippi, spoke on the same side, on Monday. These are testimonies from the quarter which is most directly interested,

and fortunately many more might be cited. Dr. Curry, the agent of the Peabody Fund, well says: "Through every Administration, by every party, by every statesman, down to the present period, national encouragement of education in some form has been approved and sustained." He also shows that the grants to the Northern States from the public domain for school purposes have been nearly twelve times as great as those to the Southern States, and for universities and agricultural colleges much more than twice as great.

Judge Lamar, when Senator from Mississippi, met the most frequently repeated objection to the bill by saying: "I think the measure is fraught with almost unspeakable benefit to the entire population of the South, white and black. It will excite a new interest among the people; it will stimulate both State and local communities to more energetic exertions and greater sacrifices, because it will encourage them in their hope of grappling with a task before whose vast proportions they have stood appalled in the consciousness of the inadequacy of their own resources to meet it."

MR. BLAINE has made a very sensible reply to the memorial from the Territorial Legislature of Arizona asking for the purchase of enough Mexican territory to secure a deep-water port on the Gulf of California, through which the products of the territory might be shipped down the Colorado river. His reply is in substance that this is what we should not ask and Mexico should not grant, and could not under the restrictions imposed by its present Constitution. Neither is there any point on the Gulf nearer the mouth of the Colorado than 200 miles which is deep enough for such a port, and Arizona is too broken to form a highway of commerce. All that he could have added is that we have all the territory we are capable of seeing to, and are not in a mood to covet our neighbor's vineyard, however excellent a "garden of herbs" it might supply us with. This it seems is substantially what the Secretary did say to Señor Romero in a conference the Mexican minister reports to his own government, adding that our Government could not be responsible for the newspaper talk on the subject, but assuring our sister republic that it amounted to nothing, as it had no support in the public opinion of the country at large.

A LARGE part of the present session of the New York legislature is spent upon two measures which Governor Hill vetoed last time, and was reelected none the less. One of these is the Saxton bill to establish the Australian method of voting. As only two Democratic Senators voted for it, and only four Democratic representatives, it is useless to expect that it will be passed over the Governor's veto, and every hour given to its discussion from this time is so much waste of the public money and time. The Democrats are quite ready to pass a bill which adopts the Australian plan, with the proviso that other than official ballots may be used; but they are convinced that the exclusive use of official ballots would result in disfranchising a considerable percentage of their own party; and in the existing situation of State and National politics they of course do not mean to take any risks of that kind. That there are some of them who oppose the plan because it would loosen their corrupt hold upon their immediate following, is beyond doubt. But this is not proved of the major part of them; and they have a show of reason in their refusal to put any obstacle in the way of getting out the whole vote of their party. The *Times* of New York, which has been a very zealous advocate of the Saxton bill from the first, admits that it probably would have this effect.

Mr. Eaton's High License bill is equally unlikely to become a law in the face of the Governor's opposition and veto, but there is much less reason to justify him and his party in this instance. The bill is supported by all the conservative elements of both parties, only the Prohibitionists and the liquor interest being arrayed against its passage. But Mr. Hill, who invited the liquor interest to send representatives to the last State Convention of his

party, is bound to them by so many ties that he cannot be got to assent to any real reform of the Excise laws of the State. It is in the weekly organ of that interest that the most authoritative statements of his purposes and policy are now to be found.

MR. MIDGELEY, chairman of the Western Freight Association, urges the passage of a very desirable amendment to the Inter-State Commerce bill, which shall repeal the prohibition of Pooling. As he shows, the effect of that clause in the Law has been to promote the consolidation of railroad lines. Instead of the temporary and moderate restraint on competition which the Pool furnishes, we have now a complete end of any and every competition in a great number of instances, and the tendency to consolidation, if not checked, may result in placing the whole railroad system of the country under a single despotic management. At any rate all the smaller lines will be absorbed by lease or purchase, and the big corporations will become still bigger, and more of a menace to society as well as of a political danger.

As Mr. Midgeley says, the law as interpreted by the Commissioners furnishes ample security against excessive charges. All that he asks is that the Commission be given authority to supervise and legalize Pools, thus at once securing the public interest and imparting to these arrangements a stability they have not had in the past. This, in our judgment, is the only feasible solution of the difficulties attending unrestricted competition.

THE court-martial trying the charges against Commander McCalla and other officers of the *Enterprise* war-ship, has attracted an unusual degree of attention, as it comes so soon after the discussion of the reasons why it is so hard to get men for the regular army and the navy, and still harder to keep them from deserting after they have enlisted. We do not wish to pronounce how far the officers of this particular ship are responsible for the evils that have been exposed, or merely followed bad traditions they found in the service. But it certainly is humiliating to learn that the state of things on board the *Enterprise* was much more like the administration of a prison-ship than anything else, that a screen had to be set up to hide the treatment of our American sailors from the visitors who thronged the ship while she was in foreign ports, that at times there were "not irons enough to go round" among the men under punishment, that a man might be kept for days under punishment "by mistake," and that at nights an anchor chain was laid along the deck that a large part of the crew might be fettered to it as a matter of precaution. These charges are made by some of the officers as well as by the men, and the chief defense seems to be that the *Enterprise* had a very rough lot on board her as her crew. To the general public it must seem as though the recognized relations between officers and men in the navy are out of right connection with the spirit of our institutions, and that something more than the punishment of some officers and the reform of the worst abuses is required.

The same is equally true of the army. President Harrison has just had to "pardon" a private soldier, who was sentenced by court-martial to imprisonment for the offense of refusing to perform menial services at the command of an officer, and to liberate another who had been sentenced to twenty-nine years imprisonment for offenses of which he was not guilty! The court-martial which tried him had no proof of anything but desertion, but they found him guilty on all the counts and Mr. Endicott approved the finding. These things are a revelation of the reasons for desertions, and explain why this private committed his one real offense to escape being tried for some trivial breach of discipline. Undoubtedly, here are fields where reform is called for.

SOME of our esteemed contemporaries find encouragement in the political situation in Pennsylvania in the prospect held out to them that Mr. Delamater and Mr. Andrews will draw in the "business men." This approaches very closely the domain of humor. Those gentlemen are undoubtedly practical enough in their

methods of politics, but it will not be anticipated by any one acquainted with the existing political conditions, that any greater share of the political "business" which Mr. Quay inspires and his agents carry out is likely to add either to the moral or physical forces of the Republican party of Pennsylvania. Whatever improvement might come from the greater activity of business men in public affairs must come from their adding to the elements of independence and honor, both of which elements now sadly need reinforcement.

THE Tory majority in the British Parliament is not so solid as it was. Twice since the session began has the Ministry been overborne by the House, and although neither question was of sufficient moment to make a disturbance, the occurrence of two such rebuffs in less than two months is significant. The first was on the amount to be appropriated to the Volunteers, Mr. Goschen's economy seeming excessive to the Commons. The other was with regard to the closing of roads and paths in Scotland by the owners of the big estates, who find this necessary in the conversion of farms into sheep-walks or deer-forests, especially the latter. Several years ago the English Society for the Maintenance of Ancient Ways, which has put a stop to much encroachment of this kind at home, sent an expedition into the Highlands, at the urgent request of the common people and their friends. By this working force many roads were reopened and fences and other obstructions torn down, and signs placed where they would indicate the right to travel. But it would seem that this kind of action has proved insufficient, and the Scotch members have been obliged to bring the matter to the notice of Parliament. As the closing of these roads is indispensable to the maintenance of the deer-parks, "Society" of course is all against the immemorial rights of the people, and it seems to have exerted pressure enough to induce this "conservative" Ministry to enter into the conspiracy to rob the people of what has belonged to them much longer than the landlords have held their estates. But feeling in Scotland is so much aroused about the matter that even Conservative members felt obliged to vote for transferring the control of the whole matter to the County Councils of Scotland, who would make quick work of these encroachments. And Mr. Chamberlain, having no aristocratic prejudices on the subject of land not lying in Ireland, took the same side, with those of the ex-Liberals he could control. Of course nothing will be done, as even if the Commons were to pass a bill to remedy the abuse, the Peers would throw it out, regardless of the dangerous precedent they would be setting for the time when their immemorial rights will come under discussion.

A FRENCH Ministry which has lasted thirteen months has attained unusual longevity, and that of M. Tirard had done good enough service to entitle it to last still longer. It really went to pieces on the resignation of M. Constans, its Secretary of Interior Affairs, and began to look around for an excuse to resign. It professed to find it in an adverse vote of the Senate, although nobody ever supposed that even a French Ministry was bound to maintain a majority in both branches of the national legislature. The change which this has occasioned is rather a rearrangement than a new Administration. M. Freycinet comes to the front once more as Premier, but without the halo of great expectations which attended his former advent to power, when he was still a man of whom large things were expected. He now ranks as an able administrator rather than a statesman of magnitude. The change from M. Tirard to him will be accompanied by an effort to rally all kinds of Republicans to the support of the Government, whereas his predecessor preferred to come to an understanding with moderate monarchists, in order to secure a majority.

It was the ratification of a commercial treaty with Turkey which led the Senate to vote against the Tirard Ministry. The details of the treaty involved the question of protecting French interests, and hence brought up the larger issue of Protection and

Free Trade. Upon this M. Tirard's policy has not been strong enough to satisfy the large Protectionist majority in the Parliament, and his retirement signifies this as much as anything.

THE meeting of the Labor Conference at Berlin last Saturday, at which eleven European Governments were represented, marks a new stage in the recognition of the questions of labor and of wages as among the greatest of modern times. It is the only social question which has obtained diplomatic recognition in this way, and this conference is an admission that this is the age of industry. Napoleon saw this when he said that a new kind of property had come into existence,—labor. St. Simon amplified his thought in the proposal to reconstruct government by substituting industrialists for dynasts. The young Emperor has carried the problems of the industrial world into the field of great politics, and even if nothing more should come of the Conference than this, it will be a day to mark with a white stone.

It is the sense of this which has provoked so much opposition to the Conference among those who have no sympathy with the working classes. The English Tories were much inclined to refuse to send a delegation, until they remembered Beaconsfield's "residuum," the Tory workman, who helped them in the elections of 1885 and 1886. The Prussian Junkers are equally dissatisfied with the course taken by the Emperor, as they do not see why this common herd cannot be ignored now as it was half a century ago. But the time for that kind of treatment is past, when eleven European nations assemble in Conference to see what can be done to ameliorate the condition of the laboring classes. It indicates the approach of that social revolution,—peaceful or bloody as other classes are wise or unwise in reading the signs of the times,—which will enable the "most numerous class, that is the poorest" to live in Europe in some degree of decency and comfort, and not to be forced to emigrate in order to live at all.

THE London correspondent of the *New York Times* sends the following, in his dispatches of the 15th instant:

"To-day a new batch of atrocities in Siberia was spread before the London public from a Berlin source, and doubtless they have found their way to America. This latest yarn gives appalling figures about overcrowding and other abuses in the Tomsk prison. We may expect a great deal more literature of this same sort from Germany to keep in motion the ball Mr. Kennan has set rolling. There is in all these stories a varying proportion of truth; so also it is true that in Central Asia and Central Africa incredible barbarities are constantly committed; but things as bad as anything in Russia are done weekly under theegis of British law in Ireland, and people who try to bring them to notice are sneered and coughed down by 300 English gentlemen on the benches of the House of Commons regularly, and the dearest wish of a large number of gilded youth who come here from America is to learn to talk and think like these same 300 English gentlemen. When this fact is examined in all its bearings the Anglo-Saxon tendency to get excited about rumors of what happens in far Siberia becomes a trifle grotesque."

The purport of the paragraph is quite contrary, no doubt, to the prevailing temper in America. Mr. Kennan and his chapters of Siberia have caught the public attention, and the accounts sent of the killing of the prisoners, and the flogging of the woman, have added intensity to the feeling that already existed. At the same time there are some facts to be considered which form a background to the picture, and point out the need for a true perspective in our study of it. Russia's system of arbitrary rule gives rise, necessarily, to arbitrary measures. Among these is the system of arresting political suspects. That some are unjustly arrested there need be no doubt; that, on the other hand, most of those who are seized and deported are conspirators against the Government is not less certain. And when it is considered that the Nihilist method of warfare includes murder,—making no disguise of the fact at all,—it can hardly be surprising that the officials who are marked for assassination resent the attack by the policy of arrest and exile. In her avoidance of capital punishment, Russia shows a strange clemency, and the Siberian system,

gloomy and harsh as it is, exceeds but little the cold and privations suffered from year's end to year's end by a large part of the Russian people.

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

NEW YORK.

BUSINESS in the Stock Exchange fell back into dullness after the flurry made by the Reading affair and the C. B. & N. purchase. It could not very well be otherwise, because the condition of the money market was entirely against a continuance of the upward movement in prices. It is only the dullness of business in the securities market which keeps money reasonably easy at 4 to 5 per cent. on call; brisk activity with rising prices would soon make such a lively demand for funds that rates would go up rapidly, and scarcity soon be felt. For this reason, the bull interests have to go slow until such time as the April settlements are out of the way. Doubtless money will be easier later, because there are unmistakable symptoms that general trade is slackening. It is not particularly pleasant to say it, but there is no shutting one's eye to the fact that in many lines of business, and important ones too, the condition of affairs is not at all satisfactory. In all those trades which vary with the seasons, retailers and jobbers are left with large lines of winter goods on hand which they have been unable to sell, and for which there can be no market until next winter. The consequence is that they have no money to meet maturing bills, and the wholesalers are afraid to let them have the necessary credit for spring goods. Collections are reported to be poor by the mercantile agencies, and commercial paper is hard to negotiate. It is even said in Wall street that there is more money there than there ought to be, because banks which do much business in mercantile paper have become so uneasy over the outlook that they prefer lending their money on securities with ample margin rather than discounting notes which may go to protest. It is also to be noted that the iron trade is no longer in the rushing state that it was, and prices are weakening, particularly of Southern irons, which have fallen \$1.50 per ton. These are signs not to be mistaken that money is likely to accumulate again at the financial centres. It will be well if we pass through the critical spring months without some important failures.

The recent events in Germany have not helped the bull side of speculation, although it may not do us any serious hurt in the long run. Press cable despatches the day after Bismarck's resignation said that the markets were quiet, and it was believed that the effect had been discounted. This was one of those pleasant sayings which are sometimes indulged in on such occasions for the laudable purpose of quieting alarm. Experienced operators smile at them, as they did at this. The event could not be discounted, because no one could tell what was to follow. The actual effect was to produce a temporary paralysis of business on all the European Bourses, and there was an anxiety to hold things steady until it could be seen who were the new men to come to the front in German councils, for on them, and the line of policy they would indicate as likely to be pursued, would depend the relations of Germany to other European States. If the retirement of Bismarck meant nothing more than changes in Germany's internal affairs, no effect would be produced on the markets; but people competent to speak on such matters say that it may mean much more. In the past fifteen years Bismarck has been the conservative force in Germany in its external relations, and if the leaders of the war party are to be the future counsellors of the young Emperor, the peace of Europe may be in danger. War, and rumors of war, are the staple bear material for the European stock markets. This material is constantly being worked up in some form for speculative purposes, and foreign correspondents of American papers who don't understand this are constantly getting themselves excited over what they imagine to be an impending war somewhere in Europe. They probably do not know that every event which can by any means have a hostile construction put upon it, is eagerly seized upon and worked up for effect on the markets. A matter so important, however, as Bismarck's quarrel with the Emperor needs no working up. Its importance was shown in the fact that it gave a sudden and severe check to business on all the Bourses.

London became a seller in our market immediately, and while things continue in a state of uncertainty over there we shall have to reckon that market as being against us all the time. The Northern Pacific securities are very largely held in Berlin. Indeed that is where Mr. Villard has his strongest financial backing. It is not surprising, therefore, that at the very first rumor of what was coming these stocks weakened in price. Foreign exchange rates on the same day rose half a point, indicating clearly that there was foreign selling. Fortunately, there were some things going on of a favorable character on this side which offset the de-

pressing foreign influence. The view which Wall street took of the purchase of the Chicago, Burlington & Northern road, viz., that it indicated a general movement towards a bettering of the mutual relations of the western roads, appears to be proving itself correct. An important meeting of the principal managers has been called for next Wednesday at Chicago, and it is expected that some new developments in the situation will manifest themselves. The change of attitude by the president of the Manitoba road is right in the line of what had been anticipated. He has been independent, if not antagonistic to the other roads, and was known to have on hand some schemes of aggression as soon as navigation opened which it was feared would make serious trouble for the other western roads and even bother the trunk lines. But he is now willing to confer with the trunk line managers, and at next week's meeting it is expected that Chairman Walker will report his plan for a new Association of all the lines, which will include the Manitoba and the "Soo" route. It is understood that the managers of the latter are tired of fighting. They have a heavy load of bonds on hand for which they have never been able to find a market, and which they are not likely to find so long as their road is only known as one which is willing always to do business at unremunerative rates. They have probably come to the conclusion that peace will pay better than war.

There was some good buying of the granger stocks when these things began to get noised about, but the real strength of the market was the buying of the Vanderbilt shares. It was no room trader work here, but buying for investment, based on the excellent earnings and fine condition of these properties. On the other hand, Union Pacific was weak, and President Adams did not help matters by the exhibit he made before the Senate committee of the diminishing earnings of the road. The January report was poor enough, and the February one is expected to be still worse, for the road suffered from snow blockades and floods even more in February than it did in January. Mr. Gould is credited with the statement, made to a friend, that the stock will go to 40 again. If there is any man that knows the Union Pacific thoroughly it is certainly Mr. Gould. In the trust stocks a good deal of trading was done in Sugar stock on the varying aspects of the dividend matter. The lawyers for the trust showed that they are skillful practitioners, and when it comes to manœuvring in court they are up to every trick known to the profession. The motion to compel the opposition party to show cause why the trust should not pay the April dividend which the trustees had declared, subject to the order of the court, was regarded as an amusingly skillful way of shifting the burden of proof from one's own shoulders to those of an opponent.

THE PROPOSED TARIFF BILL.

IF the Committee of Ways and Means had kept closely in view the economic doctrine of the Republican party,—declared at Chicago, and approved by the result of the elections,—they would surely have made a better bill than has been outlined to us this week. They have, we fear, been confused if not misled, by the outcries of those who oppose the Republican doctrine, and who were defeated at the polls in 1888.

The first duty of the Committee is to insure the welfare of American industries: their second is to deal with the resultant revenue. Apparently, they have reversed this order. Their bill is one dealing with revenue, and watching, at the same time, its consequences as to Protection. This is not a method of procedure suited to the country's situation. The great economic question for the United States has been, and is, her relation to her own and to foreign industries. Her fiscal legislation ought to be devised upon broad principles relating to this question. If we are to depress our own labor, and consume foreign products, that is one thing: if we are to support our own production, and check the foreign imports, that is another. But to make either of these policies "incidental" to considerations of revenue is reversing the true order of things, and putting this tremendous subject down within the reach of the log-rollers, and the jobbers.

We take it for granted that Mr. McKinley and his Republican associates on the Committee still have the whole matter within control, and that while they are not unprepared to face the multitude of idle objections which will be brought against any measure whatever, they are in a situation to avail themselves of well-founded suggestions. They will be told,—certainly they should be told,—by those Republicans who are sufficiently clear-headed

to recall the party's declarations and obligations, that there is but one safe course to pursue in this very serious juncture. That course is the simple and straightforward one of framing a truly Protective measure. That is both justified and demanded by the situation: a different measure is not.

Such a bill ought to deal with as few subjects as possible. It is not a general revision that is called for. Every detail of change adds to the difficulty of the situation, as it increases the number of interests affected. What, then, ought to be done? What are the great subjects which call for treatment?

First, obviously, sugar. Why? Because the duty on sugar is not one of Protection, but for revenue. Why? Because it has failed, after a long period of trial, to establish in this country the production of one-tenth the sugar we consume. The duties collected on sugar, to-day, are simply a tax, and such a tax is unjustified. It is true that efforts are making which look like ultimate success on a small scale, to produce sorghum sugar in Kansas, and beet-sugar in California, and to enlarge the field of cane-sugar by planting in Florida. These efforts deserve, and demand, national fostering. But this fostering must be by other means than the present enormous and indefensible import duty. It is unjust to the people to levy upon them a tax so great, in order to develop the production by processes which must necessarily,—even hoping sanguinely for their success,—be extremely slow in comparison with the enormous and increasing use of sugar. A bounty is the natural and fit aid of the nation to home-grown sugar, under existing circumstances, and the Republicans at Washington who really have the courage of their convictions will not hesitate to say so.

In regard to sugar it is the fault of the suggested schedule that it is a piece of timid, and therefore bad, surgery. It will probably not leave adequate protection to either the old sugar planting in Louisiana or to the experimental new industries in other States. Unaccompanied by a bounty it is too much; while for the principle of a Protective Tariff,—not a revenue Tariff,—it is too little.

The other great subjects with which the revision should deal are the additions to the free list. There are important additions that should be made. We have already spoken of the coarse wool which this country does not produce, and does not wish to produce, that wool which is really used for manufacture into carpets. Why should we continue to levy a duty on this? On protective principles it has no claim. Its production is not now an important native industry, and there is no real reason for desiring to make it such. Why not, then, let the manufacturers of carpets have it free? Why not help thus their mills and their work-people? Yet it appears the carpet-wool duty is proposed to be increased.

We should go a step farther than we have heretofore indicated. We should put iron-ore on the free list. Why? Because the digging of iron-ore is such an industry, so rude, so primitive, as to have the slenderest possible claim for Protection. Because, —unlike the growing of wool,—it would not require any period of delay and preparation to open American banks of ore,—should any be closed in the absence of duty,—if a foreign war should cut off any source of exterior supply. And, finally, because the American deposits of iron-ore, fitted for the most advanced and most important metallurgy, are few and not easy of access to most of our iron and steel-workers. Iron-ore is such a "raw material" as the iron industries of the Atlantic Coast may fairly ask for, and whose freedom from duty, not forbidden by the principles of Protection, intelligently and broadly applied, would give material aid to the greatest circle of our manufactures.

The proposal to impose a duty on hides stands in much the same category as the retention of the iron-ore duty. Hides have been free for many years. They are but the by-product of a cattle-raising business which already has been enormously favored by the nation in the permission to it to use the public pasturage without charge. There is no good reason, now, when tens of thous-

ands of shoe-makers are employed under free-hide conditions, for a reversal of the policy that has so long been followed.

There are changes indicated which seem open to question. Why reduce the duty on steel-rails? Is it desired to increase importations, and put a sharper competition on the men in American rail-mills? It is intimated that the object is to warn the rail-mills that they must not form combinations for making an arbitrary price,—those "Industrial Trusts" which the Protective system disowns. But have such combinations been formed? What of the reduction in the duty on sawed lumber? Will not the Canadian Government so manipulate its forest royalties as to offset this, and prevent any reduction in the American price? As to the proposed duty on tin-plate, is it enough for the purpose? It may serve to establish the home manufacture, but it seems to us quite as likely to add to the revenue from imported tin-plate, and to increase its price to American consumers, without creating a native production.

The cut at the tobacco taxes is justified, of course, so long as it is impossible to adjust on a sound and wise system the inter-relation of State and National taxation. Like rum, tobacco deserves to be taxed, as long as anything is. Like the drinks that intoxicate, this close companion of theirs deserves to pay a penalty for its existence. Nothing could bear taxation better: few things could bear it one-tenth as well. To throw it away, while the people need such a revenue, is the most short-sighted and narrow-minded of economic procedure. In no other country, we venture to say, in any time of civilization and civilized systems, has any statesman ever voluntarily taken such a course. But, as we have said, it has been impossible so far to procure a sound system under which the tax could be justifiably retained; its repeal is therefore the only appropriate step. Perhaps the dormant sense of the country may be awakened in time to turn to account the revenues from spirits.

We close, as we began, in regard to the suggested schedules of the Committee. They are vitiated, as we believe, by the idea of "getting rid" of revenue. The demand for that is primarily a Free Trade cry. It was devised by those who wished to strike at the Tariff. To approach on that line the great subject which the Committee have in hand is to subject their work to danger from every side, and not to secure it the moral support of that great and earnest Protectionist feeling which the people have more than once shown they deeply and sincerely entertain.

THE PASSING OF BISMARCK.

WHEN the life of the Emperor Frederick hung on a thread it was supposed that his death would bring a new lease of power to the veteran statesman who had been his father's chief adviser. At the close of the Franco-Prussian War Bismarck was the idol of the Liberals of Germany. They rallied round him with such unanimity that he was independent for the time of the support of the Junkers, who had been almost his only supporters in the strong measures which led to the unification of Germany. He responded to their enthusiasm in a way which showed that he was not insensible of the compliment implied in the new admiration he received from those who had been denouncing and opposing him from the beginning of his public life. They had the advantage of being a National German party, with support in every part of the Empire, while the Prussian Junkers were local, and the class that corresponded to them was Particularist in Hanover, Roman Catholic in Bavaria, and discontented under other names elsewhere. To retain the Liberals' support he went very far out of the line of policy which seemed to be indicated by his early history. He took up their ideas of finance as regards both the money circulation and the Tariff. He allowed them to carry him into that extraordinary outburst of Liberal intolerance, which they called the *Kultur-kampf*. The "man of iron and blood" became the idol of the very men who had compelled him to override the Prussian Constitution in the matter of creating and main-

taining a great army, when they would not vote the supplies in the regular way.

But neither Bismarck nor his imperial master ever was entirely at home in the Liberal camp. It never really was other than a question of time as to their breaking with that party, although the break involved the necessity of getting on with a scratch majority in the Imperial Diet. The break came when the Chancellor discovered that his advisers' wisdom in economic matters, such as Free Trade and the Single Gold Standard, was not so incapable of question as they assumed. His dismissal of Herr von Camphausen from the ministry of finance in 1879 was the critical act. A remnant of the National Liberals, led by Bennigsen, still clung to the fortunes of the Chancellor, but the rest broke away to develop into the fragmentary Radical parties. This led to the compromise with the Centre or Roman Catholic party, and the virtual relinquishment of the *Kultur-kampf*, in order to secure a working majority with the help of Catholic voters. So Bismarck "went to Canossa," and he began to be hated by the average German Liberal about as heartily as before he drove Austria out of Germany and annexed Alsace and Lorraine.

The hope of the Liberals was the heir apparent, whose wife, like all Prince Albert's daughters, was in the liveliest sympathy with the Liberals, and was known to exert a large influence over her husband. It was treated as a certain thing that Bismarck would be retired from office with all the honors as soon as the Emperor Frederick came to the throne, and that the Putkammers and others of his personal following would go out without the honors. But the dark dread of Frederick's early death was a dread indeed to all who hated Bismarck; and when he died it was felt to be not only a blow to Liberalism, but an establishment of Bismarck's power on a more lasting basis than ever. It had not always been easy for him to manage the old Emperor. He had threatened resignation again and again, but had been bought to stay by concessions which the old man was far from relishing. The young Emperor, however, would be as wax in the hands of so astute a diplomatist, and he had grown up in the atmosphere of Bismarckianism. So strong were the beliefs and assurances of this kind, that when rumors of disagreements first began to spread, the Chancellor's enemies for once rejected them and believed the assurances of his organs that all was peace and good will between the Chancellor and his imperial pupil.

Wilhelm II., however, proves to be a surprise. He is a young man with ideas,—and with a wife. The new Empress is by no means an insignificant element in the German situation, and she is a very different woman from her mother-in-law, the dowager Empress Victoria. Her sympathies lie with the Churchly party among the orthodox Lutherans, in so far as this is possible for one committed to the United Church by her position. As a church-woman she has not the smallest sympathy with the *Kultur-kampf*, which fell nearly as heavily upon the strict Lutherans as upon the Roman Catholics. She therefore, no doubt, regards Bismarck as one who betrayed the cause of the Church and of religion during his ten years' alliance with the Liberals, and her influence over her husband has not been favorable to the continuance of the Bismarck rule.

The Emperor shares his wife's feelings about church questions, and has indicated this abundantly, both before and since his accession. But even without this he would not have got on with the Chancellor. He has ideas of his own, which while they may be crude, have the merit of being out of the beaten track of official opinions. His declaration of sympathy with the laboring classes may have been timed with reference to its effects on the elections, but it was perfectly sincere in itself. There was a time when Socialism was a word of horror in the religious circles of the Continent. There are elaborate treatises proving that Protestantism is an outgrowth of it, and others showing that Catholicism is tainted with it,—in each case to the disadvantage of those churches. Of late years this has changed, and many of the most religious people of both Churches have taken up the social ques-

tion with far greater freedom from prepossessions of this kind than would have been thought possible twenty years ago. By a natural reaction from the *laissez-faire* theory, which once was consecrated as a part of Christian faith in an over-ruling Providence, there has been a disposition to meet the Socialists half-way; and "Christian-Socialist" parties now exist in both Catholic and Protestant Germany under high ecclesiastical sanction. Besides these there are many more who, without going so far as to commit themselves to any kind of Socialism, are disposed to look for the truth there is in Socialist theories, and to search for methods of attaining that "abolition of social risk" which the Socialist offers to the working classes.

Bismarck himself has gone in this direction since his revolt against the political economy of the Liberals, but not fast and far enough for the present Emperor. The law to establish compulsory insurance of workmen at the expense of their employers, in the case of those whose pay does not permit of their meeting the expense themselves, is a great revolution in legislation. But he does not seem inclined to go into other schemes for the improvement of their condition, and the first sign of his loss of influence was in the appearance of the imperial rescripts on the subject, without his signature added to that of the Emperor. The difference of view thus indicated has proved wide enough to lead to a dissolution of the partnership existing between the greatest statesman of the Continent and the Hohenzollerns. Such a change is not for the peace of Europe. Bismarck talked war, but both his presence in the councils of the Empire and his prestige outside them made for peace. The control of affairs now passes into the hands of a young and adventurous sovereign, who has no experience, and who is sure to draw around him advisers whose aim will be to please him by reflecting his opinions.

The old Chancellor is a man whose career and principles excite dissent on many grounds. But his name stands forever in the leading place in the brightest portion of the records of Germany. What thinkers, poets, and idealists had dreamt of, and patriots had been planning, he accomplished. All his mistakes, and he made many, will not obscure the glory of that career whose results drew to his side the party which had most strongly opposed him, and which forever associates his name with the undoing of the divisions of six hundred years.

MEDICAL EDUCATION.

WHEN the nineteenth century opened there were but four medical schools in the United States; the oldest in Philadelphia which was chartered in 1765 and at this time was a department of the recently reorganized University of Pennsylvania; the second a medical school originally attached to King's College (now Columbia) in New York, which always had a feeble career and was given up in 1810; the third the medical department at Harvard, which after a year's lectures in anatomy was organized the same year that peace was made with Great Britain; and the last the Dartmouth School, which had been in operation three years. At that time there was about one student in attendance upon medical lectures to each 13,000 of the population, while in 1880 the proportion was one to 4,000 in round numbers. The usual method of acquiring the healing art remained much as it was in colonial days, for, although professional standards had greatly advanced and the wealth of the land increased, the social conditions had not materially changed. Traveling was difficult, cities were few and the largest small compared with present concentrations of population, the village was still the centre of local influence, and hospitals well-nigh unknown, at least as affording the means of clinical instruction. The Pennsylvania Hospital which Franklin and Dr. Thomas Bond promoted as early as 1755 was not completed until 1805. There were two small hospitals, one in Boston and the other in New York, but none of them were on a scale sufficiently large or well-equipped to induce students to come in numbers from any great distance to enjoy the advantages of clinics thus afforded. The prevalent course pursued in requiring the profession was service in the office and often in the family of some practitioner. After three or four years of grinding herbs in a mortar, wiring bones together, running on errands, cleaning bottles, waiting on the doctor as he went his rounds, and attending the door-bell, the apprentice gained his freedom and returned home to practice his half-learned profession in the country. There were physicians in the

land of much broader culture; some of them had come from Europe like Middleton of New York from the Edinburgh schools, and Troost of Philadelphia from Leyden: some Americans had studied abroad like William Shippen and Benjamin Rush. Yet the emergence of medicine from a mere empirical stage went on rapidly in the latter part of the eighteenth century. The labors of Harvey and Sydenham had become the common possession of the profession and given a new direction to physiological research, while Cullen, the Hunters, and Brown gave a powerful impulse to therapeutics and surgery. Chemistry at that time, under the methods of Priestly, Cavendish, and von Scheele, abandoned theoretical speculations for the firmer ground of laboratory analysis. All these influences acting upon the cultivated minds of such men as Hunter in Newport, R. I., of Cadwalader, Morgan, Shippen, Rush, and Bond in Philadelphia, of the Warrens in Boston, of Middleton, Smith, and S. Bard in New York, led to a new conception of medical requirements, and the inauguration of a system of professional training which swept away the old apprenticeship and established the methods now universally pursued.

A seeming paradox comes into view at the opening of this century. There was not then a law school in the land. Save at Rutgers College and two Roman Catholic institutions of very late origin in Maryland, there was not a theological seminary in the United States. In the way of foundations for exclusive professional training, medicine was first in the field and most advanced. Yet medicine in an exact sense is the very youngest of the learned professions. The explanation is that our early colleges were established chiefly to educate men for the ministry, and law was a favorite study. The colonies were rather conspicuous for the number and ability of its jurists. Then the literature of the law and of divinity was far more copious and methodical than that of medicine. McMaster says that the library of the largest practitioner of physic in New Haven sold at his death for \$82 in 1784, and that a collection of fifty volumes constituted at that time a notable apparatus of research.

But the youngest of the professions has become numerically the foremost. The halls of its schools to-day are frequented by thrice as many students as those of law, and twice as many as those of theology, although the tuition fees in law are generally less than those in medicine while theological instruction is gratuitous. This proportion of numbers, however, does not hold good for the practitioners of physic and surgery, for while there is one clergyman to about each 700 of the population, there is but one physician in actual practice to each 550. The explanation of this phenomenon is that about one-third of the matriculants in medical schools never reach a graduation degree, while of those who do a large number rapidly fall out of practice, either because they are incompetent or find the rewards of their practice insufficient for their support. This result arises from the fact that there are such poor requirements for entrance into medical colleges, and even such slight examinations imposed for a degree. Dr. Anderson, of the Rochester University, wrote a few years since that "Among professional schools those of theology alone steadily encourage and support high education. It may be worthy the attention of all well-educated lawyers and physicians that, while the average standard of education for all other classes of society is constantly rising, the standard in these two noble professions is, on the whole, going relatively downward." The statistics in possession of the United States Commissioner of Education do not bear out this stricture upon the legal profession, for they show that in theological seminaries one student out of four, and in law-schools one out of five, bring with them diplomas in evidence of previous graduation at some chartered institution of liberal or scientific training, while in medical schools the ratio is one to twelve. So far as such a criterion goes the standard of professional requirements in medicine are vastly below those of the law.

As late as 1887 Dr. Charles Warren described the methods still in vogue in these terms: "The greater number of medical schools in the United States still pursue the ancient method of educating their students. This consists, essentially, of a requirement that the applicant for graduation shall have attended 'two courses of lectures' upon the main topics included in medical training; but in practice these 'two courses' are really but one and the same course given each year with but little variation." Of course this is cheap education, and one might suspect it to be the expedient of illy located and depressed institutions in their competition for patronage with stronger rivals. Unfortunately this is not the case. Four of the oldest colleges in the land, graduating annually one-eighth of all taking doctor's degrees, require no entrance examination, and, although they report that they provide three years' courses, it is notorious that graduation is to be obtained in all but one of them by attendance upon two rehearsals of virtually the same series of lectures. They are Bellevue Hospital College in New York, Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Rush College in Chicago, and the University of Virginia. The fact is that

but recently have a few of the older and stronger institutions so far overcome their dread of competition as to take any serious steps towards raising their requirements for admission and graduation.

The real difficulty in the situation has been the practice of making merchandize of medical education. Professors are paid with reference to the number of matriculants in their respective institutions. Most of the capital is invested in buildings and equipments, very little in productive funds. The average value of each establishment is only \$54,000, and the richest one of all has an investment of only \$300,000 to provide the buildings and appliances for the training of nearly 650 students annually. Contrast the financial situation of medical with that of theological and law schools. The endowments of theological seminaries reach \$2,800 for each student, of law schools \$353.50, and of medical schools but \$250 per head. But the income of the latter from all sources is \$600,000 a year, of which nine-tenths is derived from tuition fees, and for participation in the distribution of this fund, 2,500 instructors of various sorts, or one to every five students, are struggling.

Among the better educated physicians are many who deplore this professional degradation. The homoeopaths were the first to try and turn the current towards better aims, for they introduced a graded course as early as 1853 into the Penn University of Philadelphia, an institution long since extinct. In 1869 the graded system was introduced into the Hahnemann College in the same city. The women followed in Philadelphia and New York, as well as a Chicago institution now connected with the Northwestern University. But the most potent movement began with Harvard in 1871, and six years later the University of Pennsylvania adopted like measures, neither suffering any pecuniary detriment from the change. In these schools entrance examinations are required in which a fair English education must be exhibited, and the course is lengthened to three years with the studies arranged in progressive sequence. Since then the number of institutions using a graded three years course has risen to twenty-nine, of which five belong to the homoeopaths. The effect upon the standards of medical education of this reformation is indicated by the fact that in these schools the ratio of matriculants having degrees from chartered schools of letters or science has risen to 23 per cent., or nearly treble the average, and this gain of course is offset by the decreasing proportion of educated students in the schools adhering to the old system. The best results appear in the medical departments of our great universities. Thus the ratio at Yale, Harvard, Columbia College, New York, the University of New York, and the University of Pennsylvania averages 32 per cent., or four times as much as the general proportion for the United States. These are promising results as the achievement of less than twenty years. They reveal the forces at work to put the profession of medicine on an intellectually larger basis, and now that the process of renovation has auspiciously begun, it is to be believed that a calling so noble and humane in its aims, and pursued by so many able and accomplished scholars, will pursue it until the reproach of the past is forever rolled away.

D. O. KELLOGG.

THE CANALS OF PENNSYLVANIA.

SINCE cheap transportation is the great problem of commerce, and it is well settled that no means of conveyance is so cheap as that by water, it might be presumed that practical and sensible men would see that the canals of the country were carefully maintained and wisely utilized. Very nearly the opposite is the fact. Many of the canals built early in the present century have been abandoned altogether; many others have been so assiduously neglected that they are now ready for abandonment; and still others are so administered as not to invite trade, but to repel it.

In Pennsylvania the system which was patiently built up between 1790 and 1840, partly by private enterprise and partly by the direct expenditure of the State, is now fast returning to its original elements. There has been a policy of neglect and destruction corresponding in energy to that by which the canals were made, and we are not very far away, now, from the situation when Robert Morris was exerting himself to construct a waterway from the Susquehanna to the Schuylkill. In 1880 the abandoned canals of Pennsylvania were reported as having an aggregate length of 477 miles, and their cost as having been \$12,745,780. The State work on the Ohio side of the Alleghenies, from Johnstown westward, was given up very early, and on this side, down the Juniata, the injuries by freshets have ceased to be repaired, and the grading has been appropriated by the railroad. The Pennsylvania Canal, along the west branch of the Susquehanna, is in part if not entirely abandoned; a newspaper paragraph before us,—some months old,—stated that notices had been posted at Lock Haven, notifying the public of the disuse of that portion of the line between Bald Eagle dam, in Clinton county, and

Loyalsock creek, in Lycoming, a distance of some thirty-five miles. And we hardly need refer at length to the neglect and abandonment of the canal and slack-water system along the Schuylkill,—the "Schuylkill Navigation" which Philadelphia energy and expenditure built up sixty years ago, and which for a time was flourishing and profitable.

It is a subject not merely for curious inquiry by historical writers, but for study by engineers and practical men, why the canals have been given up, and to what extent their abandonment is justified by the interests of the public. Undoubtedly, some of the mountain work, constructed only as a desperate means of transport, supplied at best with scarcely sufficient water, liable to sudden and severe damage by freshets, and permitting only the use of small boats,—these canals have been reasonably supplanted. Their difficulties and incapacities have increased as the timber has disappeared and the rain-fall has become more and more irregular. But these are only a part of the canals of Pennsylvania. The description given will not apply to those that skirt the larger and less rapid rivers, nor to such a line as that between Philadelphia and the Schuylkill coal regions. These are still valuable, and capable of important use as carriers. If they are to be given up it is a certainty that doing so will increase the average cost of transportation in Pennsylvania, or,—what is the same thing for commerce,—will forbid transportation at the best economic rate.

It only needs to be pointed out how imperative the demand of commerce is for new water-ways, and how great a price it is willing to pay for them. The construction of the Suez Canal is one great example, and the determined assault upon the American isthmus is another. But of more direct interest in relation to the subject in hand is the cutting of the ship canal from Manchester to the Mersey, and some of the less ambitious and expensive undertakings in this country. The proposed connection of Lake Erie with the Allegheny river is declared to be one of the most important projects in relation to the manufacturing and mining interests of Western Pennsylvania. At Ottawa, within a few days, Sir John Macdonald received a large delegation of business men in relation to the deepening of the Beauharnois and Cornwell canals, and were assured that work would be commenced this year, the estimate of cost being \$12,000,000.

Two systems of water-ways undoubtedly claim consideration. They may be named the inland and the tidewater. The latter are those which most compel public attention, and whose operations are on the greatest scale. But the smaller canals of the interior have their importance. Trade must be fed at the seaports by the streams that descend from the higher lands. To this movement canals must contribute, as well as railways. New York's great supremacy in commerce is due not entirely to her splendid harbor by the ocean, but to the influence, also, of her great internal water-way. It was the Erie Canal that made her rise like a giant sixty years ago, and to the preservation and use of this canal she has adhered with unfaltering good judgment. It has been enlarged and improved; its capacity has been enormously developed, and it has been made free to all comers. A boat may pass through it, now, as free of charge as a dray may drive through the streets. "We must bear in mind," said Horatio Seymour, in 1882, "the influence of the canals in reducing the charges on other routes. So long as they are kept in good condition we shall be saved from the evils of combinations or unjust discriminations against our State. If they did not carry a pound of freight it would be wise to keep them in order so that they would be ready for use to defeat unjust and hurtful charges against the business of New York." The Constitution of the State provides that the canal shall never be sold or leased, but "shall remain the property of the State, and under its management forever."

How much would be done for Pennsylvania by the corresponding policy in this State can only be estimated after a careful study of all the elements of the problem. But that transportation would be cheapened in an important degree, if the canals were maintained and developed, instead of being neglected, abandoned, and destroyed, cannot be questioned.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE "trial by newspaper" has never yet, we believe, been accepted as the substitute for trial by jury. Yet it continually offers itself, all the same, and by no means in a spirit of modesty. The trial of Leconey, the New Jersey farmer accused of murdering his niece, was conducted at large in the newspapers, until by the ordinary processes of judicial procedure it was made plain that the circumstances surrounding the affair, while they justified suspicion, by no means warranted the verdict of guilty which the reporters had promptly pronounced against the accused man, and that he must consequently be acquitted. And now the Pennsylvania Institution for the Blind, the Girard College, the Eastern

Penitentiary, the House of Refuge, and perhaps half a dozen more charitable and public institutions, are "under fire." The attack upon them is much like that on Leconey; there is, in the case of the Institution for the Blind, plainly some ground for it, though by no means so much as would be inferred from the sensational manner in which every idle tale of fault-finders is spread before the public; and as to the others there may or may not be occasion for criticism. But, obviously, inquiries into the management of these institutions, which represent so much of the charity and humane purpose of the community, should be conducted with dignity, and justice to all parties, and, as a rule, they should be private. The spreading out of every detail of complaint by inmates,—for example that the Schuylkill water is muddy,—is in large measure not only idle and trivial, but it is, of course, destructive of the good order and sound discipline which must be maintained, as it is, also, wounding to the sense of privacy which most of the institutions must maintain, if they are to be of value. A worse tribunal to carry on an inquiry into the affairs of such institutions as we have named, than the almost irresponsible columns of the daily newspapers, could hardly be conceived of.

MEANWHILE there are plenty of investigators. Besides the newspapers, the managers of the Institution for the Blind took up the work,—as, it seems, they should have done earlier. After them, on the same business, followed the State Board of Charities, and after them, still on the same, a Committee of the Legislature. Finally, the District Attorney, the Grand Jury, and the Courts, will act as a residuary administrator, with reference to those under accusation of criminal wrong-doing. It is altogether a procedure calculated to make the unthinking carp and the judicious grieve, because, as we have said, investigations into such cases should be conducted with dignity and (generally) with privacy, and because the evident effect of making them in this wholesale and indiscriminate manner is to disturb and distract the noble works of charity and philanthropy which ask and deserve so much of the community. As between the sale of some additional copies of the daily papers, and the due assistance and instruction of the blind and the orphans, the latter no doubt are to be preferred.

THERE is some encouragement for thinking that the Public Library proposition may once more awaken. The *Ledger* has had an article on the subject within a few days. It has long been a standing disgrace to the city that, amid the many beneficences of charitable and wealthy men, the pressing need of a free Public Library has been overlooked or ignored. Aside from the more practical necessities of good streets, water, and sewers, the city requires nothing so much as a Library to which every citizen shall have access, and to which the scholar and student may go with assurance of obtaining the fullest information and the widest references. Philadelphia is so behind her sisters in this respect that the absolute necessity of a Library scarcely calls for proof. We must keep to the fore or else be content to drop into decrepitude. In this age nothing stands still.

How closely the philosophy of Delsarte conforms to the sometime æstheticism of Mr. Oscar Wilde, and what relation it bears to the great art movement which has swept over Europe, are questions of present interest, not only to the dilettante but to him who observes the trend of thought in this country as influenced by transatlantic movements. Mrs. Henrietta Russell, who comes to us as an avowed disciple of Delsarte, would seem to be endowed with those persuasive qualities which go so far towards obtaining a hearing for new ideas, and probably the "Philosophy of Expression" could have found no better or more eloquent exponent. If Art can be saved from falling into a comatose state,—if it can be made to illumine, to regenerate, to purify the heart and perfect the manners of men,—if, in a word, it can be made the great motive force in the moral world, by all means let us welcome the physician who promises such a cure.

NOTABLE among the lectures of the week are Prof. Jastrow's expositions of the "Talmud" and Dr. Dike's address before the Wharton School, on the subject of *Divorce*. Of the former it may be said that the origin, contents, and history of the Talmud have never been more thoroughly set forth, and Prof. Jastrow's contrast between the Talmud, as based upon Law, and the New Testament as based upon Religion, was especially intelligent and instructive. Dr. Dike made the startling statement that divorce is increasing twice as fast as population, or at the rate of 159 per cent.; and from this fact he deduced the necessity of immediate reform, which, he thought, could most readily be attained through the medium of statistical and other literature.

In his lecture on Sunday afternoon before the Neighborhood Guild, Provost Pepper said: "Philadelphia never does assert herself. We suffer from chronic modesty in this city." The remark is quite just, if not altogether new. Not only the University, but most other Philadelphia institutions and enterprises have felt the blight of our self-depreciation, and it may be confidently said that we shall never be likely to take our proper place in the intellectual or commercial world until we begin to assert our claim to it. Dr. Pepper's plea for University education and extension was eloquent, and he pointed with much force to the fact that the University stands perhaps alone among Eastern institutions in being in organic connection with the public school system.

PEOPLE who live in the suburbs, just now, are conscious of a premonition of change. The sun is higher, the great stretches of sky seem more spacious, there is a fuller flood of daylight and a deeper emphasis in the far-away calling of the crows. That mysterious influence which can only be named the Promise of Spring is all abroad,—in the evergreens, in the grass, in the bare branches of the trees which stand, like Millais's peasants, dun and misty of outline against the grey. There is a something, so nearly a whisper that the straining ear never quite catches it, evasive yet undeniably present, to tell its recurrent message to him who is fitted to receive it. We know that behind appearances there lies a deep reality, that back of death's semblance is the potency of a splendid new birth. There are perfumes on the breeze, coming we know not whence; there is an occasional robin, with tawny breast and quick eye and silent, gliding movement. The shrewish sparrows scold in voices sharper than ever. Nature is awaking; the long day of the year is about to dawn.

LONDON ART NOTES.

LONDON, March 1.

IT is just a month now since the British Museum has been opened in the evening, and there can be no question of the success of the experiment. Until the first of February it had been always closed at dusk, and on foggy days to all save readers, as no attempt had been made to light any part of the building with the exception of the reading-room. But thanks to the exertions of Mr. Bernard Molloy, an Irish M. P., last year, a bill was passed through Parliament to provide for the lighting of all the galleries by electricity, with a view to opening them in the evening from eight to ten, for the benefit of the great majority of men and women whose work prevents them from visiting the Museum during the day-time. The experiment has been watched with much interest. As was to be expected, there was a little grumbling among the Museum officials at the extra work, (for which, however, there was extra pay), and I do not doubt that some among their number would have rejoiced had the electric-lighted galleries proved as little of a success as morning service in a country-town cathedral. Then, the many advocates of Sunday opening of museums were anxious lest if failure followed the evening opening it would be used as an argument against them. But the results in every way warrant their looking forward in the near future to the accomplishment of their object. Each evening regularly there is a large attendance in the galleries. As yet the entire building is not thrown open at night; but each side is lighted for the public on alternate evenings. The people who crowd to it belong apparently to the more well-to-do working class, though there is a fair sprinkling of corduroys and neckerchiefs. On all my evening visits I have been struck with the interest and curiosity shown, though certain galleries come in for the chief share of this interest. The mummies have achieved unqualified success, but the near Greek and Etruscan vases are apt to be passed over with scorn. I heard a workman walking through these rooms say to the men with him: "There's nothing to see here. Why down in Staffordshire we turns out millions of these 'ere Cally pots."

The educational value of this new movement, however, cannot but be felt in the long run. The loan exhibitions in the East-End, made up as they are of a mixture of good and bad work, cannot naturally compete with a nationally supported institution; and the very fact that the workman knows that he has a right to the latter, while the former is provided for him in charity, is not without its moral influence. Already the South Kensington Museum is open in the evenings. As soon as it has proved that electric light cannot in any way injure the paintings, the National Gallery must follow. Sunday opening will not then be long postponed, and then at last all these great collections will really belong to the nation, and not merely to a crowd of sight-seers and a handful of students.

So much attention has been given to the educational and social significance of this new departure that little has been said about its artistic importance, which really cannot be exaggerated. In the first place it is doubtful whether the treasures of the British Mu-

seum have ever been seen so clearly as by the electric light. Indeed the greater part of the year London days are so dark that the Museum might as well be closed for all one can see. In the second place, there is no doubt whatever that for the first time since the Elgin marbles were brought from Greece to this land of fog and gloom, one can form some idea of how they looked under the hot, strong sun of the South. The electric light falling from above on the beautiful frieze of the Parthenon, and on the Metopæ, makes the figures stand out with marvelous brilliancy and distinctness, while deep shadows are cast, just as they are on the sculptured façades of Italy and Greece to-day. The sculpture galleries in the evening are all wonderfully fine, and I would advise all who are coming to London to reserve their visit, or at least one of their visits to the British Museum, until the electric lamps are lighted.

The most interesting exhibition opened within the last month is at the Goupil Gallery, where a fine collection of Daubignys is now to be seen. The picture shows at these small galleries, when they are good, are always the most delightful, especially when they are one man's exhibition. Boussod and Valadon have been very successful in this respect. It is not so many months since the walls of one of their rooms were hung with Corots, and now we have the chance of seeing some remarkably fine examples of one of the greatest of the men who called him master. Though Daubigny is always included in the Barbizon school, the greater part of his work was done upon the Oise, where he wandered through the summer time in his boat and at Auvers, where he had his house in the days of his prosperity. In some of the pictures now at Goupil's the influence of Corot seems to assert itself, especially in a hot, hazy afternoon on the Oise, where the tender greens of the summer foliage are pale, sending paler, hazier reflections into the whitish-blue water, in the distance fading into banks of soft blue mist; and in a cool grey morning on the Loire, with one delicate tree and its graceful branches carefully drawn, while beyond the foliage is lost in the prevailing mist. But the truth is the painter who renders certain effects in France is bound to make Corots; if he is true to nature he cannot help himself. That the suggestion of his master in some of Daubigny's landscapes is due to his fidelity to nature rather than to imitation of another artist's methods, is shown by the greater number in which there is not a trace of Corot;—in the brilliant sunset on the Seine with the lovely Church of Mantes lifting its towers up against the clouded fire of the West; in the broad stretches of flat country bathed in moonlight; in the breezy, bright, green afternoons, where the Oise flows intensely blue under a bluer sky; in the meadows of spring-time where lovers wander under the sweet blossoming trees. In all the forty-three pictures exhibited, though of course all are not equally fine, there is the same simplicity and breadth of treatment, the same strong handling, the same feeling of out-of-doors which helps one to believe the story of the poor young man dying of consumption, who, seeing suddenly a picture by Daubigny, declared, "I can breathe better now." Those who have traveled through France only by train and from their carriage windows looked out upon the monotony of endless plains and great tracts of vineyards, are apt to think French landscape painters have idealized their country. But all who have ridden or walked over its poplar-lined white highways, who have wandered through its little brown-roofed villages, who have turned to look again and again at its fair church towers rising above the clustered houses, who have boated the "sweet French rivers," can but wonder to see how faithfully a man like Daubigny has reproduced on his canvas the loveliness of this lovely land.

After the Daubignys the other small exhibitions lose in interest, and none really call for special mention here. But I must say a word about an etching which has just been published. This is William Hole's plate of Millet's "Wood-Sawyers." Though Mr. Hole has only produced two or three large plates, he already shows himself the very best reproductive etcher there is. It is simply marvelous the way in which he renders even the brush work of the picture, while his handling of his materials is masterly. His "Wood-Sawyers" is, I think, his finest plate.

COMMUNICATIONS.

THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.

To the Editor of THE AMERICAN:

AS a member and officer of the Academy of Natural Sciences I return my cordial thanks for the article which you print in your last number from the pen of Mr. Charles Morris. Such a wise, temperate, intelligent, and timely presentation of the position, aims, and possessions of this institution is a real service to Science, and deserves the thanks of all who are interested therein.

Apart from the postscript, the facts stated will not be questioned by any person who is conversant with them, and I rejoice

that THE AMERICAN opens its columns to the good work of enlightening Philadelphians as to treasures which, although in their very midst, are often unknown to themselves.

Twenty years ago, when I came to this city, one of the first things to impress itself upon my mind was the tendency of the good citizens to depreciate their own riches; to speak well of every one but themselves. Never had it been my hap to meet a people of whom it was so manifestly true that "'tis distance lends enchantment to the view." Undoubtedly, this feeling is the result of inherent modesty, and that natural sentiment which leads gentlefolk to speak little of themselves, especially of their own merits. But it has its disadvantages. Certainly there are times and occasions when it is well to speak the truth concerning our own communal advantages, and the points at which we are equal to, at least, if not superior to, our sister cities. In the matter of the Academy of Natural Sciences, you have permitted this reserve to be broken by an earnest, intelligent, and truthful explanation. Our Academy, I sincerely believe, is worthy of the respectful consideration, the loyal attachment, and liberal support of our citizens. It ranks among the foremost of like institutions, not only in the country, but in the world. We have reason to be proud of its history in the past, and no less of its position and purposes as indicated by its prompt policy.

A word as to the postscript of Mr. Morris's article, which relates to a recent proposition made by the Provost of the University of Pennsylvania to transfer the Academy buildings and Museum to the grounds of the University in West Philadelphia. No one appreciates more highly than the writer the progressive spirit which has animated the authorities and faculty of that noble institution. Every legitimate success achieved by it ought to be hailed with delight. Especially in the department of science has this progress been notable; and the Biological Department has gone far to fill a long felt need in this city. It gives to students of the various professions an opportunity which has been eagerly used. There is not the slightest danger that the University will do too much in this direction, or that its liberal patrons will give too freely.

But it does seem to me that the effort to build up the University by the absorption of the Academy of Sciences is wholly misdirected, and certainly must be futile. The Academy cannot afford to sacrifice its catholic relations to the other learned institutions in Philadelphia and vicinity by placing itself beneath the shadow of the University, and in a location where it is very certain, in the end, to be dominated by University influences. We are solemnly pledged before the public to consult the interests not only of the University but of every other scientific and educational institution within the circuit of our geographical touch. This is the fundamental and most forceful reason which led me to oppose the proposition of the Provost. There are other reasons which your contributor intimates, and some which he does not mention, that also have great force as against any change of location by the Academy, particularly the one suggested. But the reason which ought most to be emphasized is the catholic position of the Academy in its relations to students of natural science. Our membership, our clientele, our beneficiaries, belong to many institutions, and embrace many of both sexes who are connected with no institution. Does any man for a moment believe that, if the Academy were placed upon the University campus, it would be freely resorted to by the professors and students, for example, of Jefferson, the Medico-Chirurgical, the Hahnemann, the Women's Medical College, the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Dental Colleges, Swarthmore, Haverford, and Bryn Mawr Colleges, Princeton University, and other institutions in Philadelphia and vicinity? No one who knows human nature, and the facts as they actually exist, could be for a moment in doubt on this point.

The University is fortunate in having at its head a gentleman who well appreciates the motto of the great Apostle of the Gentiles, "I magnify mine office." His plans for the development and growth of the University naturally and necessarily lie in large perspective in his mind; but others, whose office binds them with equal fidelity to consult the interests of other educational establishments, should not be censured for lack of foresight, wisdom, and progressive spirit, when they refuse to follow the learned and zealous Provost in this his latest scheme for promoting the interests of the University which he loves and honors.

Very truly yours,

HENRY C. MCCOOK.

3700 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, March 15.

A PROPOSED COMMON PRONOUN.

To the Editor of THE AMERICAN:

THE necessity of a personal pronoun of common gender cannot much longer be ignored. The awkward and ungrammatical methods of expression which the lack of such a pronoun compels

have become intolerable, and, especially in the department of criticism, the need is one which is daily growing more pressing.

As to the ungainly *Thon*, which for some time has been a candidate for the vacant position, it is evident that it will not answer the purpose. It is a monstrosity (especially in the possessive form) and people simply will not use it. So, whatever may be said in favor of its etymological pedigree, we must try something else. In fact etymological considerations are of less moment than adaptability to popular usage. What is required is a word which will be readily taken up and assimilated spontaneously. With this in view, the writer, a few years ago, offered a suggestion which met with some favor, and which it may not be an impertinence to repeat here.

It is as follows: Nominative, *Hi*; Possessive, *Hes*; Objective, *Hem*. The advantages of this pronoun are, first, brevity; second, resemblance to both the masculine and feminine forms of the third person singular; and third, conformity to the existing endings. To the book reviewer, who is often sorely vexed as to the sex of an unknown author, what a boon it would be to be able to write: "The author of this poem is unknown to us, but hi exhibits such undeniable talent and many of his lines are so strong, that we may confidently look to him for notable work in the future."

Of course the eye and ear experience a shock at first, but this will be the case with any word which can be coined. We need a pronoun. Why not try *Hi*? F. H. W.

REVIEWS.

GREAT CAPTAINS: ALEXANDER. A History of the Origin and Growth of the Art of War from the Earliest Times to the Battle of Issus, B. C. 301, with a Detailed Account of the Campaigns of the Great Macedonian. With 237 Charts, Maps, Plans of Battles, and Tactical Manœuvres, Cuts of Armor, Uniforms, Siege Devices, and Portraits. By Theodore Ayrault Dodge, Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel of the U. S. Army, Retired List; author of "The Campaign of Chancellorsville," "A Bird's Eye View of the Civil War," "Patroclus and Penelope, a Chat in the Saddle," "Great Captains," etc. Pp. xxv. and 293. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THIS "old-fashioned title-page, such as presents a tabular view of the volume's contents," might almost seem to have been devised to dispense with the labors of the reviewer, as it both reminds its reader of what its author has already done, especially his admirable account of the Civil War on its military side, and describes what he has here undertaken and in what spirit.

To a historian who cares only or chiefly for the military aspect of things, Alexander is a very tempting subject. There is no character in history so entirely military, so little marked by the constructive gifts of the statesman, who yet has produced so great an impression on the course of the world's history. Hannibal was as great a soldier, but he fought for a lost cause and could not save it. He delayed events only. Napoleon was as great, but he was much more than a soldier, and the *Code Napoleon* and other results of his administration of his empire will outlast all the effects of his conquests. Alexander appeared at a critical time, when the strengthening of Greece through the assimilation of related families like the Macedonians made a final collision between the Hellenic people and the decaying Persian Empire inevitable as soon as a military leader appeared who was capable of welding the nobler nationality into an army to avenge the wrongs of the Greeks in Asia. Had his father lived long enough, it might have been the name of Philip that would have stood first among the world's great soldiers. His son presents the unusual spectacle of a man capable of taking up his father's plans with at least equal vigor; and by his conquests he gave Hellenic speech and civilization that Asiatic extension which changed the face of the world.

Yet Alexander has fared but poorly at the hands of the biographers. In ancient literature Arrian is the only historian we still have who in any degree commands our confidence, and neither he nor any other of the five was a contemporary. Of contemporary historians, Ptolemy, afterwards king of Egypt, was the only one who was equal to the subject. Plutarch makes trustworthy additions to Arrian. In modern literature, Niebuhr and Grote have written as though they held a brief to discredit his character, while in Williams and Droysen he has found eulogists rather than biographers. Colonel Dodge writes throughout under the prepossession a soldier is likely to feel for one of the three greatest representatives of his profession. He does not cloak the crimes Alexander committed, or apologize for them, but he rather softens the story of them, and prefers to turn away from these painful pages of the brilliant record. We think he misses the cardinal fact in not seeing that his hero was mad, and probably had inherited the tendency to madness from his mother, and had it fostered in him,—as in so many others—by the irresponsible position to which he had been raised. Some of his portraits have

the look of insanity. And his ambition to be worshiped as a god, which our author ascribes to policy, was probably as genuine as it was insane.

The first ten chapters of the book are devoted to an account of the methods of warfare before the rise of the Alexandrian power. Three are given to Philip and the Macedonian army, especially the phalanx; four to Alexander's earlier campaigns in Illyria and Greece. Then comes the invasion of Asia, on which the renown of the great soldier rests. There is but one thing wanting to make the military interest complete, and that is the presence of a great general on the other side. Alexander's difficulties are those presented by great distances, by strong fortifications, by facing vast though ill-disciplined bodies of Asiatics. We do not follow his course with the suspense which attends Hannibal's campaign in Italy or Napoleon's before Waterloo. It was nature rather than men he had to overcome, and of the three great battles which gave Persia into his hands, all were massacres rather than fights, although all gave him the opportunity to display his command of both strategy and tactics.

In estimating his successes great stress must be laid on the character of his Macedonian forces. As Frederick the Great inherited his army from his father, and as Carnot created the army with which Napoleon overran Europe, so Alexander—as Clitus told him at that fatal banquet—owed his successes to Philip, who made Macedonia a military power. But this is not saying all. Had not the Macedonians possessed qualities not common to the Greek race in general, Philip could not have created such an army. In even the most painful chapters of the story of Alexander these qualities come to the front, and remind us that we are reading of a free and self-respecting people, whose institutions had trained them in a sense of responsibility and of right, which explains why Greece proper and Persia both went down before them.

Colonel Dodge has done his work in a thoroughly painstaking and generally satisfactory way. We think he is not always critical enough in handling his authorities, as in his quoting Quintus Curtius's romance as an authoritative history. But he certainly has made the story more intelligible than did his less military predecessors, not only by the admirable and abundant maps and plans, but by the clear and careful narrative of the military transactions.

THE BAGPIPERS. By George Sand. Translated by Katherine Prescott Wormeley. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

This is not one of the distinctive books of George Sand, like "Consuelo" and "Indiana," but it is a work of mark in its own way,—and that, it deserves to be said, is an innocent way. It has not, as far as we are aware, been done previously into English, at least in this country, and it is therefore a literary incident of note, the while it serves to give those who have wished to make the acquaintance of the famous French novelist, but have been deterred therefrom by an evident consideration, opportunity to indulge their desire without compunction. It is indeed strange that writers of genius should repel the better class of readers by their immorality, when, as this book shows, they can be quite as impressive when they are blameless. "The Bagpipers" has all the charm of style of "Consuelo," and so far from losing anything by its moral restraint it immeasurably gains.

The tale concerns a section of the French peasantry at the close of the last century, and it is told by an old countryman who was active in its scenes as a youth. The remoteness of the locality and the realistic vitality of the scheme, are wonderfully indicated. The humble actors are aware that they live in a country called France, but their knowledge of citizenship hardly goes further than that. There is scarcely so much as an allusion to matters outside their province. There are no railways, post-offices, newspapers; the peasants have neither means of conveyance to other parts nor affairs to take them thither; they are bound up in their hamlets and their fields. The picture is a curious and instructive one, nor are the living figures in it so much to be pitied as might be supposed. They are happy, they neither know nor have dreamed of anything else; it is only our wider knowledge which makes us look upon them as painfully circumscribed. The peasantry of this day, though it may be quite as ignorant, has an immensely wider field of vision; it may even emigrate and grow into real manhood; but emigration in the period of "The Bagpipers" was a thing unthought of; these peasants had hardly as much as heard of Paris, to say nothing of America.

In this absolute obscurity the little community lived whose affairs are made so real to us by George Sand,—the woodchoppers, charcoal-burners, hemp-growers,—to whom five miles from their beaten track was a journey, and to whom meat once a month was a luxury. Yet they have their "festivals," they love, marry, suffer; they have their leading spirits,—those who can talk and argue better than their fellows; they have their strong fellows, heroes

among the girls; their beauties, lodestars to the men;—quite in the way of the world in all ages and under all conditions. It is, in fact, an idyll of the peasant-life in the rich plains along the Loire, the Berri country, in which George Sand spent her youth, and this fact is the more notable, because it is in this part of France that M. Zola has placed the scene of his hideous "*La Terre*." The contrast between the two books,—the idyllic simplicity and purity of the present book and the coarse, brutal, and sordid qualities of Zola's,—is great indeed.

The teller of the tale, and in some sort its hero, is a sort of Jan Ridd of "*Lorna Doone*," a strong, homely creature, a true product of the soil. We are not to expect any æsthetic outcome from such elements. It is a rude record of primitive man; of coquetries, pursuits, crude expressions of feeling;—it is full of interest though without plot or development as understood in the usual novel writing sense. These men of the woods and fields have one rough connection with the world of sentiment, in their devotion to such music as may be expressed by the pipe. There is a guild of Bagpipers having their rules and customs, and a chief episode in the book is the account of a young man,—one who under freer influences would have been an artist,—with an ambition to excel in this direction. It is very pathetic and strange, yet, as already intimated, it may be quite wrong to infer that these simple folks claim our pity. They were, perhaps, happier, considering everything, than their successors who knew more and could do more as they pleased. "*The Bagpipers*" appeals to a limited class, but those who care for the book at all will care for it greatly.

JOSHUA. A Story of Biblical Times. By George Ebers. Translated from the German by Mary J. Safford. Pp. iv. and 371. New York: William S. Gottsberger & Co.

For those who care to study the methods of a novelist the present story has an interest which belongs to none of Ebers's earlier novels. It puts the reader in a position to judge of his treatment of his sources, as the chief source for the facts in this instance are those Biblical books which tell of the Egyptian residence of the Hebrews and their escape from it under the leadership of Moses. The points worth considering are the closeness with which the novelist follows his authorities, the extent to which he catches the atmosphere of thought, and the modes of speech, and the relative importance he assigns to the historical characters who take part in the development of the tale.

We have had our doubts of Herr Ebers's work in all these respects, considering it in its relation to history. We do not doubt his scholarship. His two notable books on Egypt are sufficient evidence of that. But we have always felt that his defective conception of his duties as a historical novelist, and the extent to which he had failed to reproduce the life of the past except in its externalities, made his stories very untrustworthy pictures of what actually occurred in the past ages of the land to which most of them take us. And this belief is fully confirmed by the character of his "*Joshua*." He accepts the Mosaic story as true in the main, not excepting the escape from the Egyptian army through an arm of the Red Sea, although,—like some theologians not counted unorthodox,—he accounts for the sweeping back of the waters by the action of a violent wind from the north. Indeed it is not controverted points on which conservative and destructive critics take opposite sides, which furnish the ground of our objection to his narrative. It is that the whole spirit of it is so different from that of the Book of Exodus, and that so many of the most dramatic features of the Mosaic narrative are either neglected or practically contradicted, without any apparent reason, that one might suppose himself reading a narrative of quite another event than that described in the Hebrew Scriptures.

A still greater artistic defect is the failure to catch the atmosphere of the old narrative, or indeed of antiquity at all. The love-episodes between Joshua and Miriam, the story of Kasana the noble Egyptian woman who loves the Hebrew general, the long speeches made by nearly every character in the book,—in their contrast to the Spartan brevity of the Bible characters; the really modern complexity of thought and emotion which these speeches display; are all out of place.

Neither is character well caught and depicted. The Pharaoh of the story is neither the Menephtah of history nor the bloody but irresolute king of the Scripture story. Moses and Miriam are described to us as being this and that, but no act or word of theirs reveals them, as do their acts and words in the Hebrew narrative. And for Joshua himself a career and adventures are invented, which were not in the smallest degree required for the story, and certainly have no warrant in history.

Neither is the story well told. It is involved, confused, and difficult to a degree which exceeds anything we have seen in his previous novels. Perhaps the ill-health of which the author complains in the preface accounts for this.

IN THE GARDEN OF DREAMS: Lyrics and Sonnets by Louise Chandler Moulton. Boston: Roberts Bros. 1890.

Mrs. Moulton handles with ease and grace several of the lighter metres, and has admirable command of the sonnet form. Her verse runs smoothly, but it is full of light echoes of other music. We feel no distinct individuality of sentiment or thought, though there are many poems of sentiment. Love, either in the past or the present, of ghosts or of men, and generally love lamenting, follows us through too many pages. There is in particular a very disagreeable little cluster of sonnets embodying a second wife's feelings, that make the position seem a very undesirable one, especially as it is accompanied by an illustration where the thin, bodiless presence of the first wife gleams beside the wretched pair in a manner that is quite haunting. The lyrical poems leave absolutely no impression on the memory, though one may often remark a graceful turn of expression in reading them. One or two of the sonnets that seem to embody deeper human experience are very fine. This one is perhaps the strongest:

"HELP THOU MINE UNRELIEF.

"Because I seek Thee not, oh seek Thou me!
Because my lips are dumb, oh hear the cry
I do not utter as Thou passest by,
And from my life-long bondage set me free!
Because content I perish, far from Thee,
Oh seize me, snatch me from my fate, and try
My soul in Thy consuming fire! Draw nigh
And let me, blinded, Thy salvation see.

"If I were pouring at Thy feet my tears,
If I were clamoring to see Thy face,
I should not need Thee, Lord, as now I need,
Whose dumb, dead soul knows neither hopes nor fears,
Nor dreads the outer darkness of this place—
Because I seek not, pray not, give Thou heed."

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE London *Athenæum* is enthusiastic in its praise of "*The Century Dictionary*," which it declares to be "far and away the largest and best general and encyclopædic dictionary." It says, moreover, that "the work is one of the cheapest publications ever issued, while it conspicuously illustrates the American characteristics of enterprise and thoroughness." Considering the customary British contention that Americans do not, properly speaking, know anything about English, this is going a long way. "*The Century Dictionary*" was no doubt a shock to British assurance, but it was useless to attempt either to ignore or to crush it.

Notice of a book *not* coming out may perhaps have no rightful place among items of literary news, but it is interesting in a way to know how ex-King Milan of Serbia escaped being enrolled among the "*Royal Authors*." It seems he accepted a pension of \$2,000 a month for not writing a book. He threatened to write his reminiscences, when the above amount was accorded him as the price of abstinence.

Ex-Governor English of Connecticut, who died lately, left \$10,000 to the library of Yale College.

The British Museum has acquired a large collection of the correspondence and papers of Jeremy Bentham, and his brother, Sir Samuel Bentham, who was an eminent architect and engineer. The collection is contained in twenty-eight volumes and is very valuable.

The third volume of Stevens's "*Facsimiles of Manuscripts in European Archives relating to America, 1773-83*," which will be issued presently, continues the subject of the secret intelligence which the British Government obtained through its political agents and spies concerning American affairs, and especially with reference to the negotiations at Paris in 1777 and 1778.

The next, the sixth, publication of the Filson Club,—John P. Morton & Co., Louisville,—will be "*The Political Beginnings of Kentucky*," by the late John Mason Brown.

The catalogue of Harvard University is now a solid book of 408 pages, and is a record of progress in every part of that great institution. There are 1,271 students in Harvard College, and 2,079 in the whole University. The number of teachers is 217, and under the new religious system there are five preachers.

Henry Holt & Co. will publish at once "*The Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow*," by J. K. Jerome, the rising English humorist.

"*Leaders of Religion*" is a new biographical series announced by Methuen & Co., London. Volumes already contracted for are "*Cardinal Newman*," by R. H. Hutton; "*Charles Simeon*," by H. G. Maule; "*John Wesley*," by Canon Overton; and "*Thomas Chalmers*," by Mrs. Oliphant.

"*Nora's Return*," by Mrs. Ednah D. Cheney, is announced by Lee & Shepard as a sequel to "*The Doll's House*," by Henrik Ibsen. The profits of the publication, it is stated, will be given to

a New England hospital, but however praiseworthy that may be we cannot but call the venture an unwarrantable liberty. What right has any one to write a "sequel" to another author's book if that writer is living, or unless he has ordered or requested such a sequel?

"The Presbyterian Hand Book" for 1890, edited by Rev. William P. White, will be published at once by Wilbur B. Ketcham, New York.

A complete edition is in preparation of the works of the late Emile Augier; and M. Alexandre Dumas the younger is collecting his scattered writings of recent date to form a fourth volume of "*Entr'actes*."

Dr. Schliemann has commenced a new and important book on archaeology.

A pension of £100 a year from the English Civil List has been assigned to Mrs. Hatch, widow of Rev. Dr. Edwin Hatch of Oxford, in recognition of the contributions of Dr. Hatch to Biblical theology and ecclesiastical history.

The German authorities are much troubled by the popularity of French school-books in Alsace. They have established a severe censorship, but they find that in new editions of the books they have licensed matter that appears to them treasonable is inserted, or "chauvinistic emblems" are introduced in the binding! So they propose to meet this distressing danger by prohibiting the use of any French books at all, if the publishers do not so mend their ways that even a Prussian bureaucrat can detect nothing objectionable in their works. This measure will apply to all schools, private as well as public.

Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons make a number of important announcements, among them being the following: "The Story of Russia," by W. R. Morfill, and "The Story of the Jews under Rome," by W. Douglass Morrison, in "Story of the Nations" Series; "The Poetry of the Anti-Jacobin," edited by Charles Edmunds; "The Trials of a Country Parson," by Augustus Jessop, D. D.; "American Farms, their Condition and Future," by J. R. Elliott; and three volumes in the new "Heroes of the Nations" Series: "Nelson" by W. Clark Russell, "Gustavus Adolphus," by C. R. L. Fletcher, and "Pericles," by Evelyn Abbott.

François Coppée, the French poet and novelist, is bringing out a psychological romance "*Toute une Jeunesse*," which is said to be practically an autobiography.

Mrs. Oer is writing a biography of Robert Browning. The lady, a sister of Sir Frederick Leighton, long lived in intimate friendship with Mr. Browning and his family, and is said to be especially well fitted for her important task. She gives notice that she will be glad to have the use of any letters of the poet containing opinions on matters of consequence.

A volume is to be added to the "Social Science" Series, entitled "Prince Bismarck and State Socialism in Germany," by W. H. Dawson.

An interesting book is nearly ready from the pen of Augustus J. C. Hare, relating to France, with numerous drawings by the author.

It looks as though British collectors are becoming poor, or Dickens is going out of fashion. The library edition of his works, presented and inscribed by the author, at the late sale of Wilkie Collins' books, brought only £14, and a first edition of "Pickwick" brought but £3 15s.

The next volume of "The History of the People of Israel," by Ernest Renan, is delayed in consequence of exceptional pressure of work. "*L'Avenir de la Science*," by the same author, will, however, be issued in April.

Countess Mirabeau is soon to publish a volume of correspondence, consisting of letters written by Madame Adelaide, the sister of Louis Philippe, by the king himself, and by Prince Talleyrand. This correspondence was found among the papers left by M. De Bacourt, uncle of Countess Mirabeau, and was written during the years 1833 and 1834, when Talleyrand was Ambassador to London.

Jean Ingelow is writing her reminiscences for *Longman's Magazine*.

Madame Darmesteter, better known as A. Mary F. Robinson, is writing a history of the Italian campaigns of the French king, Charles V.

Messrs. Griffith, Farran & Co., London, have in preparation a quarto illustrated volume on "Living Leaders of the World." It is intended that the book shall contain "graphic biographies" of contemporary kings, queens, statesmen, inventors, preachers, authors, and other men and women of light and leading. The list of contributors are nearly all Americans, and, says the *London Publishers' Circular*, "the transatlantic origin of the book is further suggested by the fact that 'graphic biographies' of 'million-

aires' are also to be given, for the benefit, we presume, of the Stock Exchange."

Lord Acton, in Mr. Gladstone's judgment, is the most learned man in England. He possesses a library of 100,000 volumes,—and knows how to use it.

Mr. R. L. Stevenson is writing a book of stories which he intends to call "South Sea Yarns."

M. E. Amélineau proposes to publish all the documents in Coptic literature relating to the history of the Coptic Church, either in the original or, where that is missing or defective, in an Arabic translation. The work will be published in annual volumes of 600 pages each. The whole number of volumes will be about fifteen.

Archibald Forbes is writing a book on Sir Henry Havelock for the "English Men of Action" series. Walter Besant's companion volume, "Captain Cook," is about ready.

Henri Ferrari is engaged on a work on the romantic career of General Boulanger. It will embrace letters, songs, portraits, and caricatures.

Sir William Hunter is editing a series of important volumes called "Rulers of India," which the Clarendon Press will publish. Each book will be devoted to a particular epoch in Indian history, each writer being peculiarly fitted for his work.

The Scribners are reported to have already received orders for over 50,000 copies of Stanley's forthcoming work. It will be published in two demy-octavo volumes.

A curiosity of periodical literature is a monthly magazine just begun (February) at Thorshaven in the language of the Faroe Islands. It is the first venture of the kind ever made. The title is *Foringatidende*, and it intends to occupy itself with "patriotic" (probably local) politics, and "with the encouragement of modern Faroe literature."

Mr. J. R. Hickox, in his "Monthly Catalogue of United States Government Publications," criticises bills introduced by Senators Wilson and Hoar for the distribution of the United States Statutes, the *Congressional Record*, and other public documents. He thinks the designation of libraries should not be confided to Congress, but to the Department of the Interior.

The fifth, and final, volume of Palfrey's "History of New England," is announced by Little, Brown & Co.

Macmillan & Co. will publish immediately a one-volume story by the Marchioness of Carmarthen, entitled "A Lover of the Beautiful."

Phonography is now in use in the following languages: French, German, Dutch, Spanish, Italian, Hindoo, and Malagasy.

SCIENCE NOTES.

THE second part of the voluminous bibliography of meteorology prepared by the U. S. Signal Office has been issued. The first part of the Bibliography referred to Temperature; the second refers to Moisture. It consists of an exhaustive catalogue of printed literature relating to moisture, from the invention of printing to the close of 1881. The subject is divided into 22 subdivisions,—rainfall, distribution and variation in amount of precipitation, heavy rainfalls, drought, etc. A division on "Showers of Miscellaneous Matter" is added, in view of its interest, and in connection with the general subject of precipitation.

At the meeting at the beginning of the year held by the Paris Academy of Sciences, the report on the "State of the Academy" gave a list of the foreign correspondents, among whom are the following Americans: Simon P. Newcomb, Asaph Hall, B. A. Gould, S. P. Langley, James Hall, J. D. Dana, and A. Agassiz. Among the English associates and correspondents are Sir Richard Owen, Sir Wm. Thomson, and T. H. Huxley.

Mr. Walter Hough (*American Naturalist*, October, 1889), gives some notes on the archaeology and ethnology of Easter Island, the southwesternmost member of the Polynesian Archipelago, now inhabited by a remnant of the Malayo-Polynesian stock. At the suggestion of the late Spencer F. Baird, the U. S. S. *Mohican* was detailed to make an exploration of this island, the result being the fine collection now in the National Museum. Stone images of large size were abundant; the largest figure collected is a torso and head, weighing three tons, measuring over eight feet in height, and made of porous volcanic rock. Six hundred of these colossi were counted on the island. Their purpose is thought to be commemoration of the dead.

A new application of photography which removes some of the uncertainties which attend the determination of variability in

the brightness of stars by the eye, was communicated to the Royal Society at a late meeting. Two or more exposures of the same plate to a given sky space are made at intervals of days or weeks, the images being near enough to be comparable within the field of a microscope. The paper presented some details of a recent observation made of the region of the great nebula in Orion. At least ten of the stars photographed, whose magnitudes are estimated to range between the 7th and 15th, were found to have changed to a considerable extent within the interval of five days.

A discussion of the marine shells and fragments of shells found in the "till" near Boston, by Prof. Warren Upham, has been published in the *Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History*, Vol. XXIV. The fossils described have been regarded before as evidence that the land in which they are found had been previously submerged beneath the sea. Instead of this, the observations of Prof. Upham show that the fossils were brought to their present positions from the bed of the sea on the north, by the ice-sheet. Another recent paper, by the same author, on "Glaciation of Mountains in New England and New York," is published in "*Appalachia*," Vol. V., No. IV.

The labors of Prof. Cyrus Thomas in the field of the ancient works found in the United States, are well known, as well as his views as to the identity of the peoples who constructed the ancient monuments. In a pamphlet issued by the Smithsonian Institution, "*The Problem of the Ohio Mounds*," the author summarizes the evidence in support of the opinion he advances, namely, that the ancient works of Ohio were constructed by Indians of several different tribes, some of the typical works being built by the ancestors of the modern Cherokees. The evidence is grouped under four heads: (1) reasons for believing that Indians were the authors of all the works of the Mississippi Valley and Gulf States; (2) evidence that the ancient Cherokees were mound-builders; (3) a tracing of the Cherokees, by mound testimony, back to Ohio; (4) reasons for believing the Cherokees were the *Tallegwi* of tradition who were said to have been mound-builders.

Dr. Charles C. Abbott, in a letter to a daily journal, urges the claims of American archaeology. An article in the *Forum*, (February), by Major Powell, he says, "appeals forcibly to those interested in the movement of building up a great archaeological museum at the University of Pennsylvania," and he cites a passage from the paper, as follows: "The forty languages of the Algonquin stock constitute as rich a mine as all the languages of the Semites. . . . The mythology of the Wintun Indians of California is as interesting and important to the history of philosophy as the mythology of the Greeks. . . . Our archaeological institutes, our universities, and our scholars are threshing again the straw of the Orient for the stray grains that may be beaten out, while the sheaves of anthropology are stacked all over this continent, and they have no care for the grain which wastes while they journey beyond the seas."

ART NOTES.

ON Wednesday evening the Art Club gave a reception to the veteran artist, Peter F. Rothermel. Mr. Rothermel is now in his seventy-third year; he is a native Pennsylvanian, having been born at Nescopeck, in Luzerne county; and many of his pictures are among those which will be regarded and appreciated by coming generations in this city and State. His "*Christian Martyrs in the Coliseum*" hangs in the Academy of the Fine Arts; his "*Battle of Gettysburg*" in Memorial Hall,—both of them works of high purpose and fine execution. This reception was therefore a particularly worthy honor, and the Art Club deserves credit for the bestowal. A small loan collection of Mr. Rothermel's works had been brought together for the occasion; they included the following: "*St. Cecilia at Vespers*," "*Hypatia*," "*Paul Before Agrippa*," "*Judgment of Solomon*," "*Cupid*," "*King Lear*," "*Connoisseur*," "*Bacchantes*," "*Lady Dedlock*," "*Touchstone and Audrey in the Forest of Arden*," and "*Lady Macbeth*."

Eleven years ago the Duchess of Galliera announced her intention of giving her superb collection of old masters and statuary to the city of Paris where, although of Italian origin, she had long resided. At the same time she purchased a lot of land near the Trocadero and began to construct a museum for the collection. Towards the close of her life the Duchess changed her mind, carried her paintings and statuary to Florence, and gave them to that city, leaving for Paris only the ground, the museum, and her library. All that the Duchess required of the city was to put her books into the museum erected by her; the rest of the space was to be occupied by the numerous paintings and other works of art

that the city of Paris buys each year. This Galliera Museum, which will not be finished for two years, is admirably arranged. For the paintings there is a gallery about fifty feet long, thirty-two feet wide and thirty feet high, with top lights. The sculpture is to be placed in a gallery fifty feet long and twenty feet wide, with three splendid cupolas.

M. James Tissot, who has spent three years in the Holy Land gathering materials for a series of compositions representing the life of Christ, is now at work upon these sketches. M. Tissot intends to make three hundred water colors and has already finished about half of them. The first series will be exhibited in Paris in the Spring.

THE PEASANTRY OF FRANCE, 1789, AND 1889.

Frederick Harrison, in *The Forum*.

BUT the political lesson of Arthur Young's journey is this: the poverty and the desolation which he saw in 1789 were directly due, as he so keenly felt, not to the country, not to the husbandmen, not to ignorance or to indolence in the people, not to mere neglect, weakness, or stupidity in the central government, but directly to bad laws, cruel privileges, and an oppressive system of tyranny. Arthur Young found an uncommonly rich soil, a glorious climate, a thrifty, ingenious, and laborious people, a strong central government that, in places and at times, could make magnificent roads, bridges, canals, ports; and when a Turgot, or a Liancourt, or a de Turbilly had a free hand, a country which could be made one of the richest on the earth. What Arthur Young saw, with the eye of true insight, was, that were these evil laws and this atrocious system of land tenure removed, France would be one of the finest countries in the world. And Arthur Young, as we see, was right.

Another point is this: to Arthur Young, the Suffolk farmer of 1789, everything he sees in the peasantry and husbandry of France, appears miserably inferior to the peasantry and husbandry of England. France is a country far worse cultivated than England, its agricultural produce miserably less; its life, animation, and means of communication ludicrously inferior to those of England; its farmers in penury, its laborers starving, its resources barbarous, compared with those of England. In an English village more meat, he learns, is eaten in a week, than in a French village in a year; the clothing, food, home, and intelligence of the English laborer are far above those of the French laborer. The country inns are infinitely better in England; there is ten times the circulation, the wealth, the comfort in an English rural district; the English laborer is a free man, the French laborer little more than a serf.

Can we say the same thing in 1889? Obviously not. The contrast to-day is reversed. It is the English laborer who is worse housed, worse fed, clothed, taught; who has nothing of his own, who can never save; to whom an acre of land is as much an impossibility as a diamond necklace, and who may no more think to own a cow than to own a race-horse; who follows the plow for two shillings a day, and ends, when he drops, in the workhouse. England has increased in these hundred years far more than France in population, in wealth, in commerce, in manufactures, in dominion, in resources, in general material prosperity,—in all but in the condition of her rural laborer. In that she has gone back, perhaps positively; but relatively it is certain she has gone very far back. The English traveler in France to-day is amazed at the wealth, independence, and comfort of the French peasant. To Miss Edwards, who knows France well, it is a land of Goshen, flowing with milk and honey; the life of the peasant of Anjou, Brie, and La Vendée is one of idyllic prosperity "delightful to behold." The land tenure of England in 1789 was, as Young told the mob in the Doubs, far in advance of that of France,—as far as that of France in 1889 is in advance of that of England now. Our English great lords have not yet begun "to skip again." Land tenure in England to-day is essentially the same as it was in 1789. In France it has been wholly transformed by the Revolution.

There are in France now some eight million persons who own the soil, the great mass of whom are peasants. It is well known that the Revolution did not create this peasant land-ownership, but that in part it goes back to the earliest times of French history. Turgot, Necker, de Tocqueville, and a succession of historians have abundantly proved the fact. Arthur Young entirely recognizes the truth, and tells us that one-third of the soil of France was already the property of the peasant. The estimate has been adopted by good French authorities; but Miss Edwards considers it an over-statement, and holds that the true proportion in 1789 was one-fourth. In any case it is now much more than one-half. Not but that there is now in France a very great number also of large estates, and some that are immense when

compared with the standard of England proper. It has indeed been estimated that positively, though not relatively, there are more great rural estates in France to-day than there are in England. The notion that the Revolution has extinguished great properties in France, is as utterly mistaken as the notion that the Revolution created the system of small properties. The important point is that since the Revolution every laborer has been able to acquire a portion of the soil; and a very large proportion of the adult population has already so done.

It is also likely that Young overrated the depth of the external discomfort that he saw. Under such a brutal system of fiscal and manorial oppression as was then rife, the farmer and the laborer carefully hide what wealth they may have, and deliberately assume the outer semblance of want, for fear of the tax-gatherer, the tithe proctor, and the landlord's bailiff. That has been seen in Ireland for centuries and may be still seen to-day. So the French peasant was not always so poor as he chose to appear in Arthur Young's eyes.

Another thing is that the French laboring man, and still more the laboring woman, is a marvelously penurious, patient, frugal creature who deliberately, for the sake of thrift, endures hard fare, uncleanness, squalor, such as no English or American freeman would stomach except by necessity. The life led by a comfortable English or American farmer would represent wicked waste and shameful indulgence to a much richer French peasant. I myself know a laborer on wages of less than 20 shillings a week, who by thrift has bought ten acres of the magnificent garden land between Fontainebleau and the Seine, worth many thousand pounds, on which grow all kinds of fruits and vegetables, and the famous dessert grapes; yet who, with all his wealth and abundance, denies himself and his two children meat on Sundays, and even a drink of the wine which he grows and makes for the market. I know a peasant family in Normandy, worth in houses, gardens, and farms, at least 500,000 francs, who will live on the orts cast out as refuse by their own lodgers, while the wife and mother hires herself out as a scullion for two francs a day. The penuriousness of the French peasant is to English eyes a thing savage, bestial, and maniacal.

The French peasant has great virtues; but he has the defects of his virtues, and his home life is far from idyllic. He is laborious, shrewd, enduring, frugal, self-reliant, sober, honest, and capable of intense self-control for a distant reward; but that reward is property in land, in pursuit of which he may become as pitiless as a bloodhound. He is not chaste, but he relentlessly keeps down the population, and can hardly bring himself to rear two children. To give these two children a good heritage, he will inflict great hardships on them and on all others whom he controls. He has an intense passion for his own immediate locality; but he loves his own commune, and still more his own *terre*, better than he loves France. He is not indeed the monster that Zola paints in "*La Terre*"; but there is a certain vein of Zolaism in him, and the type may be found in the criminal records of France. He is intelligent; but he is not nearly so well educated as the Swiss, or the German, or the Hollander. He is able to bear suffering without a murmur; but he has none of that imperturbable courage that Englishmen and Americans show in a thousand new situations. He is shrewd and far-seeing, and a tough hand in a bargain; but he has none of the inventive audacity of the American citizen. He is self-reliant, but too cautious to trust himself in a new field. He is independent, but without the proud dignity of the Spanish peasant. He has a love for the gay, the beautiful, and the graceful, which, compared with that of the Englishman, is the sense of art; though he has nothing of the charm of the Italian, or of the musical genius of the German.

Take him for all in all, he is a strong and noteworthy force in modern civilization. Though his country has not the vast mineral wealth of England, nor her gigantic development in manufactures and in commerce, he has made France one of the richest, most solid, most progressive countries on earth. He is quite as frugal and patient as the German, and is far more ingenious and skillful. He has not the energy of the Englishman or the elastic spring of the American, but he is far more saving and much more provident. He "wastes nothing, and spends little;" and thus, since his country comes next to England and America in natural resources and national energy, he has built up one of the strongest, most self-contained, and most durable of modern peoples.

Fluctuat nec mergitur, should be the motto, not of Paris, but of France. The indomitable endurance of her race has enabled her to surmount crushing disasters, losses, and disappointments under which another race would have sunk. She bears with ease a national debt the annual charge of which is more than double that of wealthy England, and a taxation nearly double that of England with almost the same population—a permanent taxation (exceeding 100 francs per head) greater than has ever before been borne by any people. She loses, over one war, a sum not much

short of the whole national debt of England, and she writes off without a murmur a loss of 1,200,000,000 francs, thrown into the Panama canal. If France is thus strong, the back bone of her strength is found in the marvelous industry and thrift of her peasantry. And if her peasantry are industrious and thrifty, it is because the Revolution of '89 has secured to them a position more free and independent than that presented by any monarchical country on the continent of Europe.

CRITICAL AND OTHER EXCERPTS.

THE RAPID INCREASE OF BOOKS.

Hon. W. E. Gladstone, in *The Nineteenth Century*.

ALREADY the increase of books is passing into geometrical progression. And this is not a little remarkable when we bear in mind that in Great Britain, of which I speak, while there is a vast supply of cheap works, what are termed "new publications" issue from the press, for the most part, at prices fabulously high, so that the class of real purchasers has been extirpated, leaving behind as buyers only a few individuals who might almost be counted on the fingers, while the effective circulation depends upon middle-men through the engine of circulating libraries. These are not so much owners as distributors of books, and they mitigate the difficulty of dearth by subdividing the cost, and then selling such copies as are still in decent condition at a large reduction. It is this state of things, due, in my opinion, principally to the present form of the law of copyright, which perhaps may have helped to make way for the satirical (and sometimes untrue) remark that in times of distress or pressure men make their first economies on their charities, and their second on their books.

The annual arrivals at the Bodleian Library are, I believe, some twenty thousand; at the British Museum, forty thousand, sheets of all kinds included. Supposing three-fourths of these to be volumes, of one size or another, and to require on the average an inch of shelf space, the result will be, that in every two years nearly a mile of new shelving will be required to meet the wants of a single library. But, whatever may be the present rate of growth, it is small in comparison with what it is likely to become. The key of the question lies in the hands of the United Kingdom and the United States jointly. In this matter there rests upon these two Powers no small responsibility. They, with their vast range of inhabited territory, and their unity of tongue, are masters of the world, which will have to do as they do. When the Britains and America are fused into one book-market; when it is recognized that letters, which as to their material and their aim are a high-soaring profession, as to their mere remuneration are a trade; when artificial fetters are relaxed, and printers, publishers, and authors obtain the reward which well-regulated commerce would afford them, then let floors beware lest they crack, and walls lest they bulge and burst, from the weight of books they will have to carry and to confine.

It is plain, for one thing, that under the new state of things specialism, in the future, must more and more abound. But specialism means subdivision of labor; and, with subdivision, labor ought to be more completely, more exactly, performed. Let us bow our heads to the inevitable; the day of encyclopædic learning has gone by. It may perhaps be said that that sun set with Leibnitz. But as little learning is only dangerous when it forgets that it is little, so specialism is only dangerous when it forgets that it is special. When it encroaches on its betters, when it claims exceptional certainty or honor, it is impertinent, and should be rebuked; but it has its own honor in its own province, and is, in any case, to be preferred to pretentious and flaunting sciolism.

EUROPEAN INTERCOURSE A CURSE TO AFRICA.

Joseph Thomson (the African traveler), in *The Contemporary Review*.

AND now let us ask, what has been the net result of all this? these direct and indirect efforts and sacrifices, and all this intercourse between the European and the African?

The impression to be acquired from our daily papers, our missionary magazines, and from pulpit and platform oratory is, that the beneficent effects are enormous.

Unhappily, my conclusions on the subject have not been obtained from such sources, and I cannot share this rose-colored view. Over the whole of East Central Africa, from north of the equator to Mozambique, from the Indian Ocean to the Congo, and along the whole of the West Coast from the Gambia to the Cameroons, I have been enabled to see for myself the nature of those effects, and to draw my own conclusions. The result has been, as it were, to put a pin into the beautiful iridescent bubble I had blown for myself in common with the rest of the world, from the materials supplied by the ignorant, the interested, the color-blind, and the hopelessly biased.

Taking a bird's-eye view of the whole situation in time and space, so that each factor may assume its proper relative position and proportion, I unhesitatingly affirm in the plainest language that, so far, our intercourse with African races, instead of being a blessing, has been little better than an unmitigated curse to them. A closer and more detailed examination reveals many bright points in the night-like darkness, full of promise undoubtedly, and capable of bursting into sunlike splendor, but as yet little more than potential, mere promise of the may be,—not of what is, or has been.

These are strong statements, and require confirmation. If true, what can possibly have caused this frightful miscarriage of the noblest aspirations of a Christian people? The answer is simply, the nature of our commerce with Africa in the past and present. To the slave-trade, the gin-trade, and that in gunpowder and guns may be ascribed the frightful evils we have brought upon the negro race, beside which the good we have tried to achieve is hardly discernible.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION: A Study in Social Science. By Professor Richmond M. Smith, of Columbia College. 12mo. \$1.50. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

DJAMBEK, THE GEORGIAN. A Tale of Modern Turkey. Translated from the German of A. G. von Suttner, by H. M. Jewett. Pp. 258. \$0.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

A STUDY IN SCARLET. By A. Conan Doyle. Pp. 214. \$0.50. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

EASTER GLEAMS. By Lucy Larcom. Pp. 45. Paper. \$0.75. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

SIXTY FOLK-TALES from Slavonic Sources. Translated by A. H. Wratlaw, M. A. Pp. 315. \$2.00. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

IN A CLUB CORNER. The Monologue of a Man Who Might Have Been Sociable. By A. P. Russell. Pp. 328. \$1.25. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

DRIFT.

SIR CHARLES GAVAN DUFFY, the historian of the "Young Ireland" party, was the prime-minister of Victoria when that colony first adopted a Protective Tariff. He has an article in the *Contemporary Review* for February on "The Road to Australian Confederation." Speaking of the open questions which the proposed confederacy will have to settle, he says:

"As respects tariffs, there need be no wonder that so many colonists agree with Bismarck, Gambetta, and Mill in believing that native manufactures cannot be started by private enterprise alone, and that Government may properly come to its aid. There would be no difficulty in establishing inter-colonial free trade throughout the confederacy, but as regards external trade it may be assumed that it will be long subjected to protective duties. Either the entire confederacy will adopt them, which no longer looks impossible, or each colony must be left to take its own course. There is a group of commercial patriots in London who think the colonial question will be settled effectually if only the colonists will consent to abandon Protection, and to be amerced for imperial defenses in a Parliament where they are not represented. . . . If Australians would only consent, like their own flocks, to undergo an annual fleecing! But they have too bitter a memory of their first spontaneous and unprotected experiment in manufactures to do that. When Victorians attempted to turn their abundant raw material in native wool into serviceable tweed, the dishonest greed of Yorkshire manufacturers sent out a shoddy imitation of their fabric and ruined their enterprise by selling it in Melbourne as Australian manufacture. It is idle to invite a people with such an experience to lay down their arms of defense, and trust to the magnanimity of free competition.

"The great colonies are supposed to have been reared and nurtured by the mother country, but the facts are in constant contradiction to this theory. British colonies have been created by British emigrants, and by them alone. Great cities have arisen on soil where they were officially forbidden to intrude. Beneficent laws stand on their statute-book, which were more than once disallowed at St. James's. Colonists were warned that they must not presume to manufacture a horse-shoe or a hobnail without permission from Downing street. Some of the most notable spokesmen of liberty in England scoffed at the idea of having self-government in the colonies. Victorians were forbidden at the outset to dig the gold, which has since made England prosperous, and to till the land, which sends cattle, wheat, and wine into her ports. They were flooded with convicts till they resolved to send back the worst villains to England. . . . It is doubtful at this hour whether those who represent the opinion of the mother country will consolidate the strength of the Empire by prompt and friendly action, or let things drift till neglect and indifference have, in the fullness of time, created another America in the Pacific, jealous, suspicious, and hostile, courting the Cosaque and cursing the Britisher."

Walter Besant's attempted sequel to Ibsen's "Doll's House" has been translated into Danish, and has naturally attracted a good deal of attention in Copenhagen. Mr. Besant, it will be remembered, reads the play *au pied de la lettre*, and deduces the most gloomy conclusions as to the fate of Nora's husband and children. That another reading is conceivable, however, is shown from a piece performed at some private theatricals in that city. When the curtain rises, the door it just closing upon Nora, Helmer being alone on the stage. Some little time passes, Helmer, of course, still overcome by the

blow, when the door opens and Nora comes back. Neither speaks. She goes to the table and looks eagerly for something. At last Helmer asks what she is looking for. "The rest of those sweets you gave me yesterday," answers Nora. "Don't you remember you ate them all?" says her husband; "but"—almost breaking down—"I—I have got some lovely chocolates for . . . for you in my pocket." The sight of the chocolates is too much for Nora; the couple make up their quarrel on the spot, and "live happy ever after." This solution has at least the merit of cheerfulness, and is in fact an admirable burlesque on the spirit of the original.—*London Dramatic Review*.

A San Francisco journal has picked up "The Moss-Rose," one of the old-time "Annals,"—not so very old, either, for this was issued in 1849,—and given its contents some study, especially their style. Here is part of its comment:

The signs of the times found in the pages of this old annual are very interesting. Thus, in one story, we read of the hero landing in New York on board a stately vessel with snowy sails and coming ashore at Whitehall. In another we find a gentleman leaving his fashionable New York hotel and "taking a short walk to a rich grassy meadow." In another of a nymph warming her delicate extremities "in front of a good orrel coal fire"; in another of a gentleman wrapping his Spanish cloak about him, and so on—little hints of bygone times and fashions. It seemed to be the height of bad style among the annual writers to speak of anything in plain, direct language. A man's blood was his "life torrent." When it became dark, "night stole on, draped in her garment of stars." Dancing was described as "the rhythmic stepping of angel forms in terpsichorean evolutions." When a woman thought, she "held a fancy in her bosom"; a quarrel was "an efflux of angry words," and if one man walked before another he was an "antecedent pedestrian." Of the poetry the less said the better. One example will suffice:

"A deep blushing rose on its pillow of moss
Was sent as a token of pleasure,
And the maiden in ecstasy gave it a toss
To wear in her bosom a treasure."

Professor John Fiske is delivering a course of lectures in New York City on the discovery of America. Of the pre-Columbian period he said in part: "The aboriginal inhabitants of America were undoubtedly of Asiatic origin. It is now known that a land-connection existed between Alaska and Kamtchatka in the pre-glacial period, and it was probably by this route that the Asiatic colonists reached our continent. There is much evidence to show that the Eskimos are descended from these early Asiatic immigrants. The Indians, however, are of an entirely different stock from the Eskimos. From Hudson's Bay southward to Cape Horn, the Red Men were probably all of one race, though with some well-marked divisions into sub-races; and they were, doubtless, descended from the Asiatic tribes who came after the glacial period. Aboriginal America was a much more archaic world than Europe or Asia, and its political and social features are of incalculable value to the student of primitive culture. The only modern pre-Columbian visitors to America of whom we have any knowledge are the Norsemen."

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company will not buy any more ice this year. Instead ice manufactories will be erected at different points along the main line, and ice in sufficient quantities will be stored to cool the throats of the traveling public and keep perishable goods from spoiling. It is expected that five ice machines will be erected. Part of one plant is now at Mifflin. Each plant will be capable of making twenty-five tons of ice per day, and it will be stored in the various icehouses owned by the company.

The amount of ice used annually by the road is 45,000 tons. There is enough ice now in the icehouses to last until the summer months, at which time the machines are expected to be ready for operation. The ice will be manufactured in blocks of two sizes. One size will fit the coolers, and the other and larger ones will be used in the refrigerator cars. This will do away with the labor of cutting, and will effect a great saving in that way.—*Pittsburg Dispatch to N. Y. Times*.

Outside of the Porta Stabiana at Pompeii, in a stratum of cinders, have just been found the impressions of three bodies and a tree. Casts taken of them show the bodies to have been those of two men and a woman. One of the men was in a kneeling position, and the other stretched flat on his back. The woman lay face downward, with her arms stretched out. The tree, of which casts of foliage and fruit, as well as of the trunk, were obtained, was of the species *Laurus Nobilis*, known to have produced a round-shaped fruit that ripened toward the end of autumn, and, from the form and size of the fruit, it was evidently ripe when the tree was buried, which goes to confirm the theory that the great catastrophe took place in November of the year 79 B. C., and not in August, as has been supposed.

Miss Coe, librarian of the New York Free Circulating Library, contributes to the current (the 10th) annual report some interesting lists of favorite reading, as, for example, that of fiction, where "Uncle Tom's Cabin" leads all competitors in the main library as well as in the three branches. Miss Coe says: "It will be noticed that in most cases the favorite book of a class or of an author is a representative one. Specially is that noticeable in the list of the Ottendorfer Library, where it is evident that Americans of foreign birth or parentage are reading the best, or, at least, best known books in American literature, and that American history, biography, and miscellany are taking the lead. It is certain that Germans read better books than Americans, and boys than girls."

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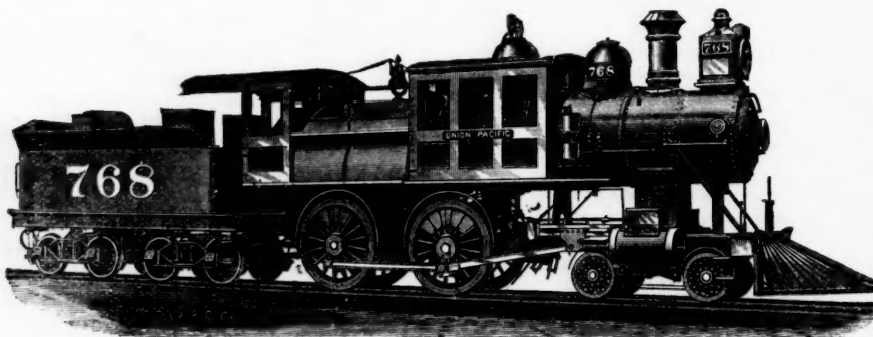
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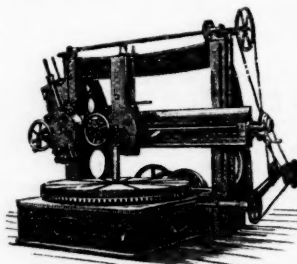
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